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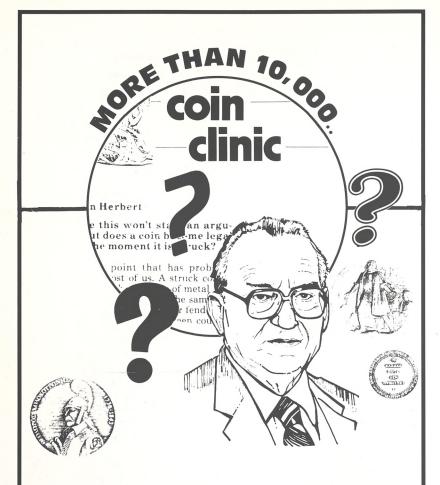
TME VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST





Joseph Addison 1672 - 1719

VOLUME 27 NUMBER 1 JANUARY 1991



...perplexing questions were answered in Alan Herbert's popular question/answer columns in the last ten years alone.

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THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

VOLUME 27 NUMBER 1 JANUARY 1991

The VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST is the Official Publication of The Virginia Numismatic Association, Inc. and is published six times each year. Articles and items for publication are welcomed and solicited. All six issues are mailed from Hampton, Virginia at the Third Class Postal Rate and cannot be forwarded, so be sure and send us your change of address.

All mail relating to The Virginia Numismatist and Advertising therein should be directed to Jim Ruehrmund, Editor, 712 Westover Road, Richmond, Va. 23220.

Direct all other correspondence about membership, address changes, etc. to the secretarytreasurer, Keith Littlefield, 3902 Rose Lane, Annandale, Virginia 22003.

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Dear Friends,

I sincerely hope that everyone's holiday season has been a good one.

Since my last letter, I have been to a show in Virginia Beach, the annual M.A.N.A. show and convention. The show was a good one with about forty two tables, and the displays were great. I would have had a difficult time choosing the best of show from that selection.

In early November I went to the Salem Annual show, and had a fine time. This show is usually small, but very active. I enjoy travelling all

around the state visiting our member clubs and their shows.

By the time you read this letter Norma and I will have passed a glorious first wedding anniversary. We are really enjoying our new life together, and our combined collecting of coins, tokens and stamps keeps us both very busy at shows and shops.

Plans are well under way for the next convention. By the time the next NUMISMATIST goes to press, I'll have a nice article on the plans up to that point.

The hobby is still a little slow, but the shows are still exciting. I believe that the price of gold and silver and the troubles in the Mid-East have a lot to do with the hobby, and the economy as a whole. But keep up your collecting!! Better times are coming.

I wish all of you the best in the upcoming New Year.

Sincerely, Greg Tucker, President

PS. Have just learned that Mr. W. Delbroe Johnson, former president of the Meherrin Valley Coin Club, died on Nov. 11. VNA extends deepest sympathy to his family. An obituary will appear in the next issue.

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PLEASE SEND TO: Keith Littlefield, Sec.-Treas. 3902 Rose Lane, Annandale, Virginia 22003

ADVENTURES OF A SHILLING

by Joseph Addison

from THE TATLER, No. 249, 11 November 1710

I was last night visited by a friend of mine, who has an inexhaustible fund of discourse, and never fails to entertain his company with a variety of thoughts and hints that are altogether new and uncommon. Whether it were in complaisance to my way of living, or his real opinion, he advanced the following paradox, "That it requires much greater talents to fill up and become a retired life, than a life of business." Upon this occasion he rallied very agreeably the busy men of the age, who only valued themselves for being in motion, and passing through a series of trifling and insignificant actions. In the heat of his discourse, seeing a piece of money lying on my table, "I defy (says he) any of these active persons to produce half the adventures that his twelvepenny piece has been engaged in, were it possible for him to give us an account of his life."

My friend's talk made so odd an impression upon my mind, that soon after I was a-bed I fell insensibly into a most unaccountable reverie, that had neither moral nor design in it, and cannot be so properly called a

dream as a delirium.

Methoughts the shilling that lay upon the table reared itself upon its edge, and turning the face towards me, opened its mouth, and in a soft silver sound, gave me the following account of his life and adventures:

"I was born (says he) on the side of a mountain, near a little village of Peru, and made my voyage to England in an ingot, under the convoy of Sir Francis Drake. I was, soon after my arrival, taken out of my Indian habit, refined, naturalized, and put into the British mode, with the face of Queen Elizabeth on one side, and the arms of the country on the other. Being thus equipped, I found in me a wonderful inclination to ramble, and visit all parts of the new world into which I was brought. The people very much favored my natural disposition, and shifted me so fast from hand to hand, that before I was five years old, I had traveled into almost every corner of the nation. But in the beginning of my sixth year, to my unspeakable grief, I fell into the hands of a miserable old fellow, who clapped me into an iron chest, where I found five hundred more of my own quality who lay under the same confinement. The only relief we had, was to be taken out and counted over in the fresh air every morning and evening. After an im-



Shilling of Elizabeth I

prisonment of several years, we heard somebody knocking at our chest, and breaking it open with a hammer. This we found was the old man's heir, who, as his father lay a dying, was so good as to come to our release: he separated us that very day. What was the fate of my companions I know not: as for myself, I was sent to the apothecary's shop for a pint of sack. The apothecary gave me to an herb-woman, the herb-woman to a butcher, the butcher to a brewer, and the brewer to his wife, who

made a present of me to a nonconformist preacher. After this manner I made my way merrily through the world; for, as I told you before, we shillings love nothing so much as traveling. I sometimes fetched in a shoulder of mutton, sometimes a play book, and often had the satisfaction to treat a Templar at a twelve penny ordinary, or carry him, with three friends, to Westminster Hall.

"In the midst of this pleasant progress which I made from place to place, I was arrested by a superstitious old woman, who shut me up in a greasy purse, in pursuance of a foolish saying, 'That while she kept a Queen Elizabeth's shilling about her, she should never be without money.' I continued here a close prisoner for many months, till at last I was exchanged for eight and forty farthings.

"I thus rambled from pocket to pocket until the beginning of the civil wars, when, to my shame be it spoken, I was employed in raising soldiers against the king: for being of a very tempting breadth, a sergeant made use of me to inveigle country fellows, and list them in the service of the

parliament.

"As soon as he had made one man sure, his way to oblige him to take a shilling of a more homely figure, and then practise the same trick upon another. Thus I continued doing great mischief to the crown till my officer, chancing one morning to talk abroad earlier than ordinary, sacrificed me to his pleasures, and made use of me to seduce a milk-maid. This wench bent me, and gave me to her sweetheart, applying more properly than she intended the usual form of, 'To my love and from my love.' This ungenerous gallant marrying her within a few days after, pawned me for a dram of brandy, and drinking me out next day, I was beaten flat with a hammer, and again set a running.

"After many adventures which it would be tedious to relate, I was sent to a young spendthrift, in company with the will of his deceased father. The young fellow, who I found was very extravagant, gave great demonstrations of joy at the receiving of the will: but opening it, he found himself disinherited and cut off from the possession of a fair estate, by virtue of my being made a present to him. This put him into such a passion, that after taking me in his hand, and cursed me, he squirred me away from him as far as he could fling me. I chanced to light in an unfrequented place under a dead wall, where I lay undiscovered and useless, during the usur-

pation of Oliver Cromwell.

"About a year after the king's return, a poor cavalier that was walking there about dinner-time, fortunately cast his eye upon me, and, to the



Shilling of William III

great joy of us both, carried me to a cook's shop, where he dined upon me, and drank the king's health. When I came again into the world, I found that I had been happier in my retirement than I thought, having probably, by

that means, escaped wearing a monstrous pair of breeches.

"Being now of great credit and antiquity, I was rather looked upon as a medal than an ordinary coin; for which reason a gamester laid hold of me, and converted me to a counter, having got together some dozens of us for that use. We led a melancholy life in his possession, being busy at those hours wherein current coin is at rest, and partaking the fate of our master, being in a few moments valued at a crown, a pound, or a sixpence, according to the situation in which the fortune of the cards placed us. I had at length the good luck to see my master break, by which means I was again sent abroad under my primitive denomination of a shilling.

"I shall pass over my many other accidents of less moment, and hasten to that fatal catastrophe, when I fell into the hands of an artist, who conveved me under ground, and with an unmerciful pair of shears, cut off my titles, clipped my brims, retrenched my shape, rubbed me to my innermost ring, and, in short, so spoiled and pillaged me, that he did not leave me worth a groat. You may think what a confusion I was in, to see myself thus curtailed and disfigured. I should have been ashamed to have shown my head, had not all my old acquaintance been reduced to the same shameful figure, excepting some few that were punched through the belly. In the midst of this general calamity, when everybody thought our misfortunes irretrievable, and our case desperate, we were thrown into the furnace together, and (as it often happens with cities rising out of a fire) appeared with greater beauty and luster than we could ever boast of before. What has happened to me since this change of sex which you now see, I shall take some other opportunity to relate. In the mean time, I shall only repeat two adventures, as being very extraordinary, and neither of them having ever happened to me above once in my life. The first was, my being in a poet's pocket, who was so taken with my brightness and novelty of my appearance, that it gave occasion to the finest burlesque poem in the British language, entitled from me 'The Splendid Shilling'. The second adventure, which I must not omit, happened to me in the year 1703, when I was given away in charity to a blind man; but indeed this was by a mistake, the person who gave me having heedlessly thrown me into the hat among a pennyworth of farthings".

EDITOR'S NOTE. This little essay is as entertaining today as it was when Addison wrote it two hundred and eighty years ago. I would not presume to edit or apply footnotes to the work of Joseph Addison, but will supply a bit of explanation of several points that may be obscure to modern readers. Starting life about 1581 with the stamp of Queen Elizabeth I, the shilling, having been lost, escaped being recoined into the "breeches money" of the parliament, was later severely clipped, and finally recoined into a shilling of King William III during the great recoinage of 1696-1697. A "Templar" was a law student, and an "ordinary" was a set meal served from day to day at a fixed price. By the time Addison acquired it, the shilling had been in circulation for thirteen or fourteen years, and was no longer UNC. If it's still around today, fretting at the inactivity of residing in someone's collection, it can at least derive some comfort from the fact that it will never have to endure the close confinement of a slab.

AUNT PAMELIA'S MONEY AND OTHER MATTERS

by Jim Ruehrmund

The lady's name was Miss Pamelia M. Ford. She was the younger sister of my great grandmother, Cordelia Ford Sheppard, and therefore my great grand aunt. Beyond a few basic facts, there's little to be told about her. She was born in Richmond, Va., probably in 1826 or 27. She never married, and family tradition has it that she taught at Hollins College in Roanoke County. Hollins, however, has no record of her, but she may have been a teacher at some private school in the Roanoke area. She died in November, 1871, and is buried in Holling and Computer in Bishure and the interest in November, 1871, and

is buried in Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond, beside her sister.

Little as I know about Aunt Pam, I do know that she was thrifty. On December 5, 1862 she went to the Virginia Savings Bank and deposited \$470, for which she received a certificate of deposit which states that she was to be paid interest at six percent per annum if the deposit were left for six months or more, and five percent if left for a lesser period. On February 9, 1863 she purchased a \$50 Confederate 8% coupon bond, Cr.20, the one with portrait of Thomas Bragg. The two \$2 interest coupons which she clipped from it and cashed would prove to be the only return she received for any of her money. On April 16, 1863 she purchased another Confederate bond, this time a Cr.126 8% registered bond for \$200. All of her money literally went up in smoke in 1865 with the burning of Richmond and the fall of the Confederate Government, but she kept the certificates, perhaps with the hope that they might some day have some value. It's a good thing she did.

On Aunt Pamelia's death in 1871, her certificates apparently went to her sister, Cordelia, and on her death in 1876 they passed to Cordelia's daughter, Eliza Sheppard Ridout, wife of Frank Ridout of Anne Arundel County, Md. Aunt 'Liza died in 1936, leaving the certificates to her daughter, my cousin, Miss Nancy Ridout, who, knowing my interest in such things, gave them to me in 1940.

Aside from their family association, the Confederate bonds are not remarkable, but the certificate of deposit (illustrated on the facing page) is another matter, for I have never seen another. It is printed on white unwater-marked paper, measures 9½" X 5 ½", and bears the imprint of J.D. Hammersley & Co. Richmond, Va. According to Ellyson's Richmond City Directory for 1856, the Hammersley firm was in the **RICHMOND DISPATCH** job printing office located at 13th and Main Streets. What the connection, between the two firms was (if there was any) is not clear. The **RICHMOND DISPATCH** was one of the city's leading newspapers, and the ancester of today's **RICHMOND TIMES DISPATCH**. Its main office was at 14th and Main Streets. The 1856 directory does provide a clue as to why the bank dealt with Hammersley. Its office was in the store of E.B. Spence the tailor, at 13th and Main, just across the street from the printer.

The certificate appears to have been printed by the intaglio process but I have always understood that no work of that kind was done in Richmond prior to 1863. If Hammersley actually printed it, why was he not employed in printing Confederate and Virginia currency and notes for the local banks?

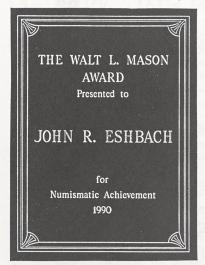
So far, my research on Aunt Pamelia's certificate seems to have raised more questions than it has answered, and I would very much appreciate hearing from anyone who may have further information.

THE WALT MASON NUMISMATIC AWARD

As was briefly reported in the last issue, the 1990 recipient of the Walt Mason Award for numismatic achievement was Mr. John R. Eshbach of Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

The award is based on Mr. Eshbach's continuing and enthusiastic involvement in numismatics spanning a period of more than thirty years. He is active in state, regional and national numismatic organizations, and has exhibited, and received numerous awards, including several "Best-in-Show". His collecting interests are as varied as his activities. He collects U.S. and Canadian type coins and Olympic commemorative medals, and also researches coin glass and Civil War token issuers.

On the local level he has been an extremely active member for over thirty one years of the Red Rose Coin Club of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and has served several stints in almost all of the club's elective offices. Mr. Eshbach was responsible for expansion of the Pennsylvania Association of



Numismatists into a truly statewide organization, and has served the association both as president and as editor of its journal. His educational programs have been many and varied, and include presentations before the Pennsylvania State Finance Committee. He has also been an exhibitor and judge at local, regional and national coin conventions. He has served the American Numismatic Association as district representative or delegate, and is a member of the American Numismatic Society.

The Walt Mason Award was established in 1988 to honor the memory of one of the most distinguished numismatists in the Middle Atlantic Area. Walt Mason,

who was active in the region for more than thirty years, won widespread affection and regard for his personal as well as his numismatic qualities, and was known as a "collector's collector". The criteria for the annual award, based on contributions to the numismatic hobby over a period of years, reflect the qualities of Walt himself, including openhanded help to collectors of all ages, and the sharing of information and the pleasures of numismatics through organizations, exhibiting and writing.

Nominations for this year's award will be accepted from January 1 through May 1, 1991. Nominations may be made by anyone, but the nominee must be numismatically active in the mid-Atlantic area of Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, the District of Columbia, Virginia and the Carolinas. For additional information, or for a copy of the award criteria write to: Len Harsel, PO Box 2301, Springfield, VA 22152.

A BONANZA (?) IN IOWA

One morning last October the editor received a telephone call from lowa. The caller, referred by the Confederate Museum, was Miss Patty Pagenkopf with TV Station KIMT in Mason City, IA. The big news from Iowa concerned a gentleman who bought a piece of land in Emmettsburg, and was having it graded, when the bulldozer unearthed a metal strongbox. When opened the box was found to contain \$19,000 face value in Confederate currency. News of the find, published in several newspapers, caused quite a sensation, and the finder set about determining the hoard's value. He contacted KIMT, and left sample notes with Patty, who called me to inquire about their value. Her description of a blue backed \$100 interest note of 1862 aroused suspicions (real ones have blank backs), and then she noticed that the note, and the others as well, carried the word "FACSIMILE". All were fakes printed after 1973 when the law started requiring that copies be marked as such. That's the end of the story, at least for the present, but it would certainly be interesting to know who buried that hoard, and why Perhaps the full story will surface eventually.

WHAT'LL THEY THINK OF NEXT?

The Gold Institute's publication, GOLD NEWS, reports that in Japan, where the exchange of business cards has been elevated to a ritual, prestige cards made of gold are a trend that continues to grow. Marketed by Mitsubishi Metal, the gold cards were introduced about two years ago and sales are brisk. Mitsubishi reports selling about 5,000 monthly.

The cards are often purchased by companies for their senior executives and as corporate gifts and premiums. Cards use the same design, including company logo, as the firm's regular paper business cards. Each costs about \$50 and is composed of one gram of gold covered by a thin, clear plastic veneer.

The concept has been expanded into consumer markets with largersized gold cards suitable for framing and display. A postcard sized card, which has proven popular, contains five grams of gold.

THE RICHMOND COIN CLUB'S COMMEMORATIVE BRASS PLUG

At its November meeting each year the Richmond Coin Club holds a donated auction sale, with all proceeds going to the club treasury. Material sold is not confined to coins and paper money, but usually includes pickles, preserves, honey, books, assorted bric-a-brac, postage stamps, etc. One particular treasure whose appearance is eagerly awaited each year is the RCC Commemorative Brass Plug, an old threaded brass plug about four inches in diameter, weighing about a pound. Found in Goochland County during the annual picnic in 1983, it was cleaned, polished and inscribed as follows: "RICHMOND COIN CLUB COMMEMORATIVE BRASS PLUG / FOUND AT LOCKKEEPER'S HOUSE, GOOCHLAND, CO., VA. / OCTOBER 9, 1983". First sold in November '83, it always draws spirited bidding. The winning bidder since its inception has been that eminent Richmond numismatist, Ben Duncan, but the successful bidder in '90 was Wesley Sawyer, who took it home with a bid of \$11.50.

VIRGINIA TOKEN CATALOGING PROJECT

It has been more than twenty years since the Virginia Numismatic Association published my book, VIRGINIA TOKENS. Not surprisingly, since that time a large number of unlisted tokens have been discovered.

I have decided that now is the time to start work on a new catalog of Virginia tokens. This book will probably be a completely revised catalog, in the same general format as the first edition. In addition to all of those tokens reported since the original book was published, it will provide current valuations for all listings, and a wealth of additional historical information about the tokens.

The assistance of all VNA members is needed to make this catalog as complete as possible. Please send exact description of the unlisted tokens in your collection, including composition and size in millimeters. Also, reports of errors in the first edition (yes, there are some) will be appreciated. Naturally, all contributors will be acknowledged in the new book. Correspondence should be sent to me at the following address:

David E. Schenkman P.O. Box 366 Bryantown, MD 20617

APPLICANTS FOR MEMBERSHIP

The following individuals have applied for membership in the Virginia Numismatic Association and will become members within 20 days from the mailing of this notice unless some adverse reaction is received, in which case the matter will be acted upon by the Board of Directors.

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THE WINDOW TAX

In England during the reign of King William III, the currency was in a poor state; with most of the circulating coins heavily worn, severely clipped or both. The remedy was a massive recoinage instituted in 1696, and holders of old worn coins exchanged them at face value for new ones of full weight. The program's cost, about 1,200,000 pounds, was recouped by laying a tax on houses, the amount depending on the number of windows. In its first year the tax raised the needed amount, but was not repealed until 1851. Let's hope that the U.S. Congress doesn't learn about this.

GOOFED AGAIN!

In the September issue the byline was inadvertently omitted from the article NUMISMATIC OBSERVATIONS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. Apologies to the author, Jerry Schmidt of Imperial Coins in Richmond. Jerry is widely known for his expertise in oriental numismatics, and he is one of the very few, if not the only, VNA member who not only reads Chinese, but also recognizes a rare Chinese coin when he meets with one.

NEWS OF OUR CLUBS

ALEXANDRIA COIN CLUB. Meets at 8:00 PM on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St., Alexandria, Va.

BLUE RIDGE COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 PM on the last Tuesday of each month at 105 North 1st St., in Charlottesville.

MOUNTAINEER COIN CLUB. Meets at 1 PM on the 1st Sunday of each month at Hardee's Restaurant, 376 High St., Morgantown, WV.

PIEDMONT COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 PM on the 4th Tuesday of each month at the YMCA in Collinsville, VA.

RICHMOND COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 PM the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Signet Bank Building, 7 North 8th St. in Richmond. At the November meeting the club discussed plans for a possible show in the spring of 1991, and held the annual Donated Auction Sale, raising \$122.50 for the club treasury.

ROANOKE COIN CLUB. Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Roanoke City Library on Jefferson St.

SALEM COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month in Room B of the Salem Civic Center at 7:30 PM.

SHENANDOAH VALLEY COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at the Mary Switzer Building, Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center, Fishersville, Virginia, at 7:30 PM.

SOUTHSIDE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION. Meets at 7:30 PM on the 4th Monday of each month in the community room at Cavalier Square Shopping Center in Hopewell.

STONEWALL JACKSON COIN CLUB. Meets at 8:00 PM on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Veterans of Foreign Wars, 430 W. Pike St., Clarksburg, WV.

TIDEWATER COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd Wednesday each month at the Lake Wright Motor Hotel on Northampton Blvd., Virginia Beach.

WASHINGTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY. Meets at the DC Congregational Church, 3526 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. The October meeting featured exhibits by 10 members, with the prize going to Allegra Buttinelli for her display of Lincoln cents. Member Charles Gaisor presented a talk on "Medieval Coinages of Western Europe".

WILLIAMSBURG COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 PM on the 1st Friday of each month at Mortimer's Locksmith Shop in Norge, Va. Take Norge exit from I-64.

VIRGINIA PENINSULA COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 PM on the 3rd Monday of each month at the War Memorial Museum in Newport News.

ANCIENT NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON. Meets in the homes of members. For information, write to W.E. McGovern, P.O. Box 2495, Gaithersburg, MD 20886.

SHOW CALENDAR

Feb. 15-18	Charlotte, NC Merchandise Mart	CHARLOTTE COIN CLUB
Feb. 24	Towson, MD Quality Inn, 1015 York Rd.	TOWSON COIN SHOW
Mar. 2-3	Fayetteville, NC Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel	CUMBERLAND CO. COIN CLUB
Mar. 15-17	Baltimore, MD	SUBURBAN WASH. / BALT. COIN SHOW
Mar. 22-24	Chattanooga, TN Quality Inn-East Ridge	TENNESSEE STATE NUMISMATIC SOC.
Mar. 24	Towson, MD Quality Inn, 1015 York Rd.	TOWSON COIN SHOW
Apr. 27-28	Winston-Salem, NC Sprague Recreation Ctr.	WINSTON-SALEM COIN CLUB

SHOW CALENDAR POLICY

The Show Calendar lists shows in Virginia and neighboring states, plus ANA and MANA events wherever held. To have your show listed, send a notice to:

Jim Ruehrmund, Editor, 712 Westover Rd., Richmond, VA 23220 Telephone: 804-358-0525

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THE MONEY STORE

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MEDALLIONS AND COMMEMORATIVES wanted by private collector. Write with description and price to: AL BAROODY, 493 BURNHAM ROAD, WILLIAMSBURG, VA 23185

WILL PAY \$100.00 for a copy of "Virginia Business Directory & Gazetteer" by Hill Directory Co., prior to 1930 except for 1906. ELVIN B. MILLER, PO BOX 366, TOPPING, VA 23169

BUY ANYTHING that was ever used for money, Confederate material and notes, depression scrip and obsolete currency, also national bank notes. PAUL E. GARLAND, RT. 6, BOX 330, LOUISVILLE, TN 37777

WANTED: Yorktown, Va. medals, tokens, exonumia, notes, checks, etc. Send description, date, price to: C. FRANKLIN MOORE, 160 WINDING WAY, LANCASTER, PA 17602

WANTED: Canceled checks for personal birthday collection, dated May 5th. I need the following years — 1926, '40, '46, '55 & '57. GINNIE ALDRIDGE, 515 PINEHURST AVENUE, COLONIAL HEIGHTS, VA 23834

WANTED: Obsolete banknotes depicting Declaration Signing or Washington's Crossing. Also, banknotes on the New Hope or Taylorsville Delaware Bridge Companies.

ROBERT W. ROSS III, PO BOX 765, WILMINGTON, DE 19899-0765

PLEASE keep me in mind when you come up with anything in my specialties — canning/packing tokens and B.P.O.E. exonumia. JIM BOSWELL, P.O. BOX 428, GAMBRILLS, MD 21054-0428

WANTED: Encased coins from Virginia. PAGE MANN, P.O. BOX 1684, WILLIAMSBURG, VA 23187-1684

FOR SALE: 1990 VNA Convention wood. Princess Pocahontas design at 50¢ each plus SASE with 35¢ postage (Post Office charges 10¢ to hand cancel)

VNA, 515 PINEHURST AVE., COLONIAL HEIGHTS, VA 23834

WANTED: Civil War Sutler Tokens & Store Cards of Va. & W.Va. merchants, obsolete & county scrip of western Virginia. Please write: HAL WALLS, P.O. BOX 2002, WHITE SULFUR SPRINGS, WV 24986, or call (304) 645-2441

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GARY OLSEN, PRESIDENT, HOMESTEAD, FRONT ROYAL, VA 22630

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THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

All Mail relating to The Virginia Numismatist should be addressed to:
Jim Ruehrmund, Editor
712 Westover Road, Richmond, Virginia 23220

Address all official mail of the Virginia Numismatic Association to: Keith Littlefield, Secretary-Treasurer 3902 Rose Lane, Annandale, Virginia 22003

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THE YIRGINIA NUMISMATIST





Norton I, Emperor of The United States

VOLUME 27 NUMBER 2 MARCH 1991



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The deadline for all copy is the first of the month preceding month of issue (e.g., April 1st for May 10th issue).

THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

VOLUME 27 NUMBER 2 MARCH 1991

The VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST is the Official Publication of The Virginia Numismatic Association, Inc. and is published six times each year. Articles and items for publication are welcomed and solicited. All six issues are mailed from Hampton, Virginia at the Third Class Postal Rate and cannot be forwarded, so be sure and send us your change of address.

All mail relating to The Virginia Numismatist and Advertising therein should be directed to Jim Ruehrmund, Editor, 712 Westover Road, Richmond, Va. 23220.

Direct all other correspondence about membership, address changes, etc. to the secretary-treasurer, Keith Littlefield, 3902 Rose Lane, Annandale, Virginia 22003.

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Dear Friends.

The latest word on the 1991 VNA Convention and Coin Show is that the dates have been changed from the weekend after Labor Day to September 20-22. This was done to avoid a potential conflict with other shows which could have severely reduced the number of dealers in attendance. The show location will be the Richmond Centre, the same place as last year, and the convention hotel will be the Richmond Marriott, which is across the street from the Centre and connected to it by a covered bridge.

Although the Convention is six months off, it's not too early to be thinking about ads and patrons for the Convention Program. The cost of staging the show seems to increase every year, so we need to raise all the money we possibly can. Funds from program ads and patrons last year made the difference between a profit and a loss for the event, and I ask each of you to support VNA in this manner; rates are given in the notice on page 10 of this issue. The program goes to press in July, so send in your ads and patron names now, and if you can get any others it would be great.

It's time for nominations again. The offices are: President, two Vice Presidents, Secretary-Treasurer and five members of the Board of Directors. If you know of capable persons who are willing to work for VNA, you can do the Association a service by placing their names in nomination.

Sincerely, Greg Tucker, President

DUES ARE DUE

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PLEASE SEND TO: Keith Littlefield, Sec.-Treas. 3902 Rose Lane, Annandale, Virginia 22003

W. DELBROE JOHNSON, SR. 1912 - 1990

W. Delbroe Johnson, former President of the Meherrin Valley Coin Club, died November 11, 1990 at his home in Franklin, Va. He had been in declining health for some years. Survivors include his wife, Virgie Piland

Johnson, a daughter and three sons.

The Meherrin Valley Coin Club was a rural hobby organization that served numismatic enthusiasts along the southeastern Virginia - North Carolina border, and had members from both states. It met in Boykins, Va., a town in the center of its membership area. Some members drove more than forty miles each way to attend meetings.

Delbroe was one of the club's founders, and served as its Secretary for many years - declining higher office until he was named president by acclamation. As Secretary he was the real heart of the club; directing, cajoling and inspiring the members in an active numismatic agenda that all

could be proud of.

His basic collecting interests were in business and merchants tokens of his area, and in world coins, and he was always generous in sharing both his knowledge and his duplicates.

He served as Commissioner of the Revenue of the City of Franklin, Va. for twelve years, and enjoyed many local contacts that enabled him to

research his tokens and uncover new ones.

It was my privilege to be associated with him for many years as a friend and as a supporter of VNA and its activities. It was always a pleasure to note his unselfish devotion to the furtherance of numismatic progress for the benefit and integrity of the hobby.

James A. Johnson, Jr.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Between April 15th and May 15th nominations for the following VNA offices will be received for the 1991-1993 term: President, First Vice President, Second Vice President and five (5) members of the Board of Directors. Candidates must be members in good standing.

Send nominations to: VNA, 712 Westover Rd., Richmond, VA 23220 Nominations must be received no later than June 1, 1991.

NATIONAL COIN WEEK, 1991

National Coin Week will be observed this year from April 21 to 27. Sponsored every year since 1924 by the American Numismatic Association, National Coin Week, provides an occasion for clubs and individuals to promote our hobby and share its pleasures with the public. Usual activities include the placing of exhibits in libraries, banks and malls, and presenting talks to school and civic groups. For further information, write to NATIONAL COIN WEEK, 818 N. Cascade Ave., Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279.



Norton \$5 Bond, Dated July 5, 1871

AN AMERICAN EMPEROR

by Jim Ruehrmund

Although San Francisco has no monopoly on colorful eccentrics, it has always had, it seems, more than its due share of such folks. The most interesting of the lot, there, or anywhere else for that matter, was undoubted-

ly Norton I, Emperor of the United States.

His full name was Joshua Abraham Norton, and he was born in England in 1818. The family emigrated to South Africa in 1820, and Joshua grew up there. In 1849 he came to San Francisco with forty thousand dollars, the legacy from his recently deceased father, and set up in business as a merchant and real estate broker. By 1859 successful investments had increased his fortune to a quarter of a million dollars, but then disaster struck. An unlucky deal in rice wiped out his fortune, forced him into bankruptcy, and left him destitute. The shock of his misfortune seems to have unhinged his mind, for in September, 1859 he sent a notice to the newspapers proclaiming himself Norton I, Emperor of the United States. The papers, always eager for a little levity to spice up the daily news, of course published it, and the reign of Emperor Norton I was launched, a reign that was to last for over twenty years. Further Imperial Proclamations on local and national issues of the day, as well as spurious ones written by local wags appeared frequently to enliven the pages of the city's newspapers, and the Emperor soon became one of the best known inhabitants of San Francisco. He was eminently recognizable; his attire consisted of an old and seedy army uniform with huge gilt epaulets, and a tall hat with a feather plume. Belted to his side was an old cavalry saber, and he always carried both a walking stick and a Chinese umbrella. His daily ramble through the downtown streets was somewhat in the nature of a royal progress, as he gravely acknowledged the greeting of his loyal subjects, and the salutes of the policemen.

He was, however, still destitute, but managed to keep body and soul together through "Imperial Taxes" in the form of small handouts from former business associates and Masonic Lodge brothers. He resided in a

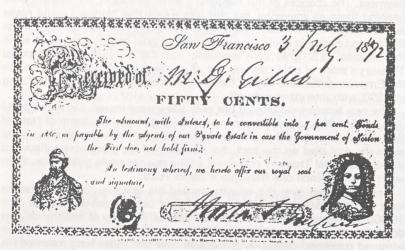
small 50¢ a night fleabag hotel and took his meals at the free lunch tables that were a feature of saloons in those days. He was almost always welcome, for his presence brought in business, and proprietors posted notices, "By Appointment, Purveyors to His Imperial Majesty, Norton I". He rode the streetcars and the Oakland ferry without paying, and no conductor would have dreamed of ejecting him.

The completion of the transcontinental railroad in 1869 was a very significant event for the State of California, and for the Emperor Norton as well, for it brought the tourist industry to the Golden State, and to the Emperor a new way to raise funds for the Imperial Treasury. Although the Emperor was decidedly daffy, he was by no means dull, and he hit upon the idea of issuing "Imperial Treasury Bonds", and selling them to tourists.

The earliest bonds, in denominations of 25¢, 50¢, 75¢, \$1, \$5 and \$10 were printed for him free of charge by the firm of Cuddy & Hughes, and bear their imprint in various forms at the bottom. For example:

CUDDY & HUGHES, Printers to His Majesty Norton I, 311 Sansome Street, S.F. The print is usually black, but at least one variety of the 50¢ denomination is in red. They bear the emperor's portrait, have ornate borders and lettering, and the gist of the text is that they are payable in 1880 with interest of 7 percent, with principal and interest to be convertible at the option of the holder, at maturity, into 20 year 7 percent bonds, or payable in Gold Coin.

Carrying a supply of bonds, a pen and a bottle of ink, the emperor used to take the ferry across the bay to Oakland, meet the arriving trains, and sell bonds to the travellers. He duly signed each one, and applied the imperial seal, which was done by inking the face of a coin and applying it to the paper. The denomination most often sold was the 50¢, for what the tourists wanted was his autograph, for which most were loath to pay as



San Franciscans thought the lady on this 50¢ bond was the notorious Nellie Cole

much as \$5 or \$10. Nevertheless, the sale of just a couple of 50¢ bonds a

day brought in enough cash to supply his modest needs.

Meanwhile, the Emperor had become a tourist attraction in his own right, and San Francisco merchants were cashing in on the sale of picture postcards, Emperor Norton dolls and souvenir plaster figurines, and a brand of cigars was named after him. The emperor's uniform, shabby from the start, grew more and more shabby as time passed, and public pressure finally induced the city's Board of Supervisors to vote funds to purchase him a new one. He acknowledged the gift with a gracious note of thanks, accom-

panied by a patent of nobility for each supervisor.

On a later printing of bonds the printers, Cuddy & Hughes, took it upon themselves to add a second portrait, a female one, in addition to the Emperor's. San Franciscans immediately recognized, or thought they recognized, the portrait as that of Nelly Cole, an entertainer at the Bella Union, that renowned old San Francisco music hall and saloon. Nelly was the star of the bawdy shows presented there, and was also famed for offstage entertainment of a more personal kind. Her portrait on the bond gave rise to a rumor that the Emperor was planning to make Nelly his empress, which reportedly made him so angry when he heard of it, that he dropped Cuddy & Hughes, and engaged another printer.

Actually, it probably didn't happen exactly like that. The bonds with the supposed portrait of Nelly Cole are dated in 1872-73, but ones printed by Cuddy & Hughes without her portrait were still being issued as late as 1876.

The new printer was Charles A. Murdock, who retained the Imperial patronage until the Emperor's death. None of Murdock's work bears an imprint. Murdock introduced a number of new design elements, including the State Seal of California, and an imperial N, like Napoleon's, enclosed in a laurel wreath. The printed seals, replaced the Emperor's smudgy coin im-

pressions.

As the year 1880, the maturity year of his bonds, approached, the Emperor began to fear that they would be presented in large numbers for payment. The chances of this happening were, of course, nil; holders were keeping them as souvenirs, but this was a fact that Norton I could never acknowledge. The maturity value of a 50¢ bond held for five years was 67½¢, and how this could have been paid in gold coin is a mystery, since the smallest U.S. gold coin available was the \$1 piece. The Imperial Treasury's stock of gold coin was, for all practical purposes, also nil, and so the Emperor decided to pay off the matured bonds with new ones maturing in 1890, with interest at only 4%.

The new bonds were printed but only a few were issued. On the night of January 8, 1880, as the Emperor was walking to the Academy of Natural Sciences to attend a debate, he suffered a massive stroke, collapsed on the sidewalk, and died on the spot. An inventory of his possessions disclosed that the Imperial Treasury contained a lone quarter eagle gold piece, \$3 in

silver, and a French one franc piece dated 1828.

Newspapers all over the country carried his obituary. San Franciscans were deeply saddened at the passing of their beloved sovereign, and over 10,000 of them turned out to view his remains. A group of wealthy citizens contributed funds for a princely funeral, and he was buried in style in a silver trimmed rosewood casket. A procession over two miles long followed his body to the grave in the Masonic Cemetery.

The Emperor Norton has been dead for one hundred and eleven years,

but he is far from forgotten in San Francisco. Several of the city's leading hotels have facilities named for him; the bay cruise ship, HARBOR EMPEROR, has a full length Emperor Norton as its figurehead, and a ten foot tall statue of him stands at Fisherman's Wharf. There is an Emperor Norton Society, and Norton buffs, and collectors of Norton memorabilia abound. The Emperor's uniform, hat, saber and walking stick were all lost in the great fire of 1906, and the bonds are about the only souvenirs remaining that are directly connected with him. Many of them must also have perished in the fire, for they are both rare and expensive. Pick's STANDARD CATALOG OF WORLD PAPER MONEY, VOL. I, lists 8 varieties (5 are illustrated), but gives no prices; they are simply noted as "rare". In 1870 the Emperor donated one of his 50¢ bonds to a charity drive, where it was auctioned off for \$150, which would be a screaming bargain in today's market. A prominent dealer recently stated that the current price, depending on condition, is between \$1500 and \$3000, so if you want to add an Emperor Norton bond to your collection, be prepared to pay an imperial price for it.

Sources: (1) NORTON I, EMPEROR OF THE UNITED STATES, by William Drury, Dodd, Mead & Co., New York, 1986.

(2) STANDARD CATALOG OF WORLD PAPER MONEY, Vol. I by Albert Pick, Krause Publications, Iola, WI.

MARYLAND CONVENTION & SHOW

The Maryland State Numismatic Association will hold its 19th Annual Convention and Coin Show June 21-23, 1991, at Festival Hall in downtown Baltimore. In addition to a goodie filled bourse, the show will feature a Young Numismatist Program, an Educational Program and many outstanding exhibits. For information on tables, write to:

Paul R. Singleton, P.O. Box 894, Annandale, VA 22003

CATONSVILLE CLUB SHOW

The Catonsville, MD Coin Club will hold its annual coin show on April 14, 1991, at the Quality Inn, 1015 York Road in Towson, Md., just north of Baltimore. For information on tables, write to:

John Bayne, P.O. Box 3273, Catonsville, MD 21228-0273

A SALUTE TO JASPER PAYNE

Congratulations to VNA member Jasper Payne of Knoxville, Tennessee, a dealer well known in Virginia from his frequent appearance at shows here. Jasper, a board member of the Tennessee State Numismatic Society, has donated \$1000 to the society to establish an award to promote the collecting of paper money. His thoughtful and generous gift reflects great credit on Jasper and the TSNS also.

APPLICANTS FOR MEMBERSHIP

The following applicant will become a member of the Virginia Numismatic Association 20 days after the mailing of this notice unless objections are received, in which case the VNA Board will decide:

Applicant Sponsor William J. Davros, Oakton, Virginia Keith Littlefield

FRENCH ASSIGNATS

by Claude Vial

Collectors of paper money are aware that the old notes that are most readily available and reasonably priced are those that were so inflated, or over-issued, that they finally became worthless. The assignats (pronounced ah se nya) of the French Revolution, issued between 1789 and 1795, are a prime example. These notes were not backed by gold or silver since the treasury had none. Instead, they were backed by the value of government owned lands, acquired through confiscation of the real estate holdings of the Catholic Church. Such a scheme can work only if the amount of currency issued is held within reasonable bounds. This was not done, and by 1792 over one billion livres had been issued. All of this was repudiated by the newly formed republic, which continued to issue its own assignats in ever increasing quantities. By late 1795 assignat issues had exceeded twenty billion livres, and the government, faced with the loss of public confidence, ceased printing them. In February, 1796, the printing plates were destroyed at a public ceremony in Paris. A new paper currency, called "Mandats Territoriaux" (Land Warrants) was instituted. One new franc was given for 30 old ones, but the new mandats quickly depreciated also. Financial stability was finally restored by the issue of a hard currency coined from huge stocks of gold and silver looted from Italy and shipped home by General Napoleon Bonaparte. The assignats and mandats became worthless; many were destroyed, but many survived for today's collectors to enjoy.

Assignats were printed by typography from multiple subject plates, and are, for the most part, rather plain in design, as can be seen from the illustrated examples. Some of the earliest ones bore the head of King Louis XVI, which was discontinued after the king was put to death, and France became a republic. Denominations were in sous (or sols), and livres, a livre being equal to 20 sols. In 1795 the denominations were changed from



Assignat of 10 Sous, 23 May 1793



Assignat of 10 Livres, dated 10 Brumaire Year 2 (31 October 1793)

livres to francs. Denominations range from 10 sous to 10,000 francs, and the notes vary in size in proportion to their denomination, from about $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches square for the 10 sous up to $7\frac{1}{4}$ by $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches for the 10,000 francs. Some of the early assignats were hand signed, but most of them have printed signatures. All carry an anti-counterfeiting clause which translates to: "THE LAW PUNISHES THE COUNTERFEITER WITH DEATH — THE NATION REWARDS THE DENOUNCER". The notes usually have one, sometimes two, embossed seals, which do not show up well in the illustrations.

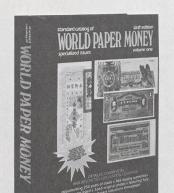
Assignats issued from 1789 until the middle of 1793 have traditional dates. Later ones are dated in the French Republican Calendar, starting in September 1792, which gave new French names to the months, and reckoned the years from the foundation of the republic. Thus, a note dated 7 Vendemaire (Vintage Month) An 2 was issued on September 29, 1793, while one dated 18 Nivose (Snowy Month) An 3 was issued on January 7, 1795.

Although some assignats are expensive — the new Pick Catalog lists the 10,000 francs at \$60 in good and \$250 in XF — others are amazingly cheap. The 10 sous, 15 and 50 sols and the 5 livres of 1793 are listed at just \$1.50 each in uncirculated condition. These surely must be the cheapest available examples of 18th Century currency, so if you'd like to add a couple of pieces of really old paper money to your collection, search for some assignats at the next show you attend.

THE STANDARD CATALOG OF WORLD PAPER MONEY VOLUME ONE, SPECIALIZED ISSUES

Sixth Edition, by Albert Pick
Edited by Neil Schafer & Colin R. Bruce
Published by Krause Publications, Iola, WI
Hardcover. Price: \$55.00 plus \$2.50 for shipping

The new Pick Catalog, Volume I, Specialized Issues, is now out, and a monumental work it is. Covering more than 300 years of commercial and restricted circulation paper money issued by revolutionary governments,



banks, provincial, state and regional authorities, it contains more than 16,700 listings and more than 7660 illustrations.

New material in this edition includes many hitherto unpublished proof and specimen notes from the archives of the American Bank Note Company, early bank issues of Venezuela, and such exotic items as siege notes and Argentine Provincial lottery ticket currency.

Valuations are given in up to three of the most common states of preservation, including a number of items that were listed but not priced in the last edition.

There is no doubt whatsoever that the new 6th edition of Standard Catalog of World Paper Money, Vol. I, is the most complete and accurate work on specialized issues ever compiled. Krause Publications

is to be congratulated on this monumental work, which all collectors and dealers in specialized paper money issues will want to own.

Many dealers will carry the new catalog, or it can be purchased directly from Krause Publications, 700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54990.

1991 VNA CONVENTION PROGRAM

The 1991 VNA Convention is less than six months away, and it's time to appeal again for ads and patrons. The sale of ads in last year's program made the difference between a profit and a loss. Members, clubs and friends are urged to support VNA by taking ads. The cost is:

Full Page, \$25.00 ½ Page, \$15.00 ¼ Page, \$7.50

Also, you can be listed as a patron for just \$2.00. Be a patron, and also sign up your friends. After all, if the editor's grandchildren and his schnauzer, Sophie, could find the two bucks, surely you can, too, DON'T PUT IT OFF. Send your ad or patron names with a check payable to the Virginia Numismatic Association to:

THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST, 712 Westover Rd., Richmond, VA 23220

NEWS OF OUR CLUBS

ALEXANDRIA COIN CLUB. Meets at 8:00 PM on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St., Alexandria, Va.

BLUE RIDGE COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 PM on the last Tuesday of each month at 105 North 1st St., in Charlottesville.

MOUNTAINEER COIN CLUB. Meets at 1 PM on the 1st Sunday of each month at Hardee's Restaurant, 376 High St., Morgantown, WV.

PIEDMONT COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 PM on the 4th Tuesday of each month at the YMCA in Collinsville, VA.

RICHMOND COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 PM the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Signet Bank Building, 7 North 8th St. in Richmond. At the January meeting, held on New Year's Day, the club planned its 1991 agenda, and Joe Bush displayed his colorful collection of Latin American banknotes. The first auction sale of 1991 was held at the February meeting.

ROANOKE COIN CLUB. Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Roanoke City Library on Jefferson St.

SALEM COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month in Room B of the Salem Civic Center at 7:30 PM.

SHENANDOAH VALLEY COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at the Mary Switzer Building, Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center, Fishersville, VA, at 7:30 PM. The club held its annual coin show on March 9-10 at the Waynesboro Outlet Village. Their shows may be small, but they're always great.

SOUTHSIDE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION. Meets at 7:30 PM on the 4th Monday of each month in the community room at Cavalier Square Shopping Center in Hopewell.

STONEWALL JACKSON COIN CLUB. Meets at 8:00 PM on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Veterans of Foreign Wars, 430 W. Pike St., Clarksburg, WV.

TIDEWATER COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd Wednesday each month at the Lake Wright Motor Hotel on Northampton Blvd., Virginia Beach.

WASHINGTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY. Meets at the DC Congregational Church, 3526 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. The new officers of the WNS for 1991 are: Pres. Len Harsel, Vice-Pres. Norman Brand, Sec.Treas. Richard Foley, Sgt.-at-Arms Sam Butland; Directors are John Fuller, Tom Hague, Mae Clarke and Robert Waszilycsak. At the January meeting Jim Hirtle presented a program on Canadian tokens. The WNS sends out a truly excellent monthly bulletin, prepared by their able Editor, Al Steidel.

WILLIAMSBURG COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 PM on the 1st Friday of each month at Mortimer's Locksmith Shop in Norge, Va. Take Norge exit from I-64. At the January meeting a program on Spanish Cobs was presented by Jim Ross, and a grading seminar was held at the February meeting.

VIRGINIA PENINSULA COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 PM on the 3rd Monday of each month at the War Memorial Museum in Newport News. At the January meeting the annual Donated Auction, conducted by Jim Ross, raised \$95 for the club treasury. At the annual banquet in February the following officers for 1991 were installed: Pres., Alan Oncken; Vice Pres., Duane MacSmith; Sec.-Treas., Mervyn Reynolds and Sgt.-at-Arms, John Gearhart.

ANCIENT NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON. Meets in the homes of members. For information, write to W.E. McGovern, P.O. Box 2495, Gaithersburg, MD 20886.

Many thanks to Clarence Armstrong, Guy DeWolf, Jim Harvey, Merv Reynolds and Al Steidel for providing information on club activities. Does your club send out meeting notices or a bulletin? If not, you ought to seriously consider starting one. It doesn't require a great deal of effort, and it will draw your members closer together, and increase attendance. Don't forget to put the VNA Editor on your mailing list so accounts of your activities can be published.



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SHOW CALENDAR

Mar. 22-24	Chattanooga, TN	TENNESSEE STATE
	Quality Inn-East Ridge	NUMISMATIC SOC.
Mar. 24	Towson, MD Quality Inn, 1015 York Rd.	TOWSON COIN SHOW
Apr. 6-8	Wilmington, NC Elk's Lodge	LOWER CAPE FEAR COIN CLUB
Apr. 14	Towson, MD Quality Inn, 1015 York Rd.	CATONSVILLE COIN CLUB
Apr. 20-21	Winston-Salem, NC Sprague Recreation Ctr.	WINSTON-SALEM COIN CLUB
Apr. 27-28	Vienna, VA Vienna Community Ctr.	NORTHERN VA COIN CLUB SHOW
May 18-19	Raleigh, NC Quality Inn, Mission Valley	RALEIGH COIN CLUB
May 29	Towson, MD Quality Inn, 1015 York Rd.	TOWSON COIN SHOW
June 21-23	Baltimore, MD Festival Hall	MARYLAND STATE NUMISMATIC ASSOC.
Sept. 20-22	Richmond, VA Richmond Centre	VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

SHOW CALENDAR POLICY

The Show Calendar lists shows in Virginia and neighboring states, plus ANA and MANA events wherever held. To have your show listed, send a notice to:

Jim Ruehrmund, Editor, 712 Westover Rd., Richmond, VA 23220 Telephone: 804-358-0525



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THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL PAPER MONEY CONVENTION

The Third International Paper Money Convention will be held at the Hyatt in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, September 27-29, 1991. The event will be sponsored by the Great Eastern Numismatic Association, honoring the Currency Club of Chester County, Pa. on its twentieth anniversary. The show will feature a bourse of paper money dealers, many exhibit cases of obsolete notes of the Delaware Valley, an Educational Forum and a YN Program. This is a show that VNA Ragpickers will want to attend, provided they have any disposable funds left after the VNA Convention the previous week.

IMPERIAL COINS TO STAY DOWNTOWN

After having lease arrangements on two different stores in Henrico County fall through on them, Jerry and Ruthie Schmidt of Imperial Coins have cancelled their plans to move. They will remain at their original downtown Richmond location in the Imperial Building at Fifth and Franklin Streets where they have been doing business since 1970.

THE COIN EXCHANGE HAS MOVED

Steve Bennett reports that the Coin Exchange has moved to 106-B, West Old Street in Petersburg, a few doors west of the old location. In addition to its extensive line of coins and currency, the Coin Exchange also offers handmade country crafts.



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THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

All Mail relating to The Virginia Numismatist should be addressed to:
Jim Ruehrmund, Editor
712 Westover Road, Richmond, Virginia 23220

Address all official mail of the Virginia Numismatic Association to: Keith Littlefield, Secretary-Treasurer 3902 Rose Lane, Annandale, Virginia 22003

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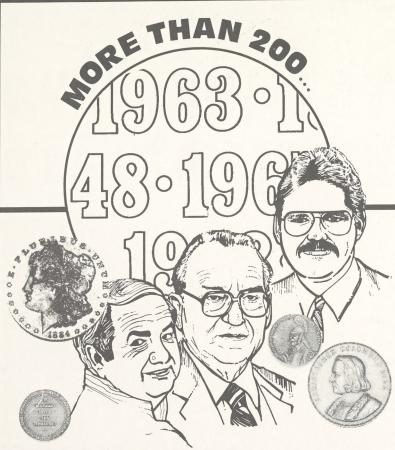
THE YIRGINIA NUMISMATIST





U.S. Marines Land On Guadalcanal 7 August 1942

VOLUME 27 NUMBER 3 MAY 1991



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The deadline for all copy is the first of the month preceding month of issue (e.g., April 1st for May 10th issue).

THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

VOLUME 27 NUMBER 3 MAY 1991

The VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST is the Official Publication of The Virginia Numismatic Association, Inc. and is published six times each year. Articles and items for publication are welcomed and solicited. All six issues are mailed from Hampton, Virginia at the Third Class Postal Rate and cannot be forwarded, so be sure and send us your change of address.

All mail relating to The Virginia Numismatist and Advertising therein should be directed to Jim Ruehrmund, Editor, 712 Westover Road, Richmond, Va. 23220.

Direct all other correspondence about membership, address changes, etc. to the secretary-treasurer, Keith Littlefield, 3902 Rose Lane, Annandale, Virginia 22003.

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Hello again from the top!

The coming of the new season has started the flurry of coin shows over again for the year. The VNA met, as in the past, during the Shenandoah Valley Club's show in Waynesboro on March 9th. We all enjoyed the show very much. The Board extends our thanks for the accommodations for our meeting. Please check coin publications for other Virginia shows and support them if possible. The Richmond Club has decided not to have a spring show because of the proximity of Easter Holiday.

Our VNA Convention and Show is fast approaching. The dates this year will be September 20-22 and will be in the Richmond Center as last year. I must mention the need for prompt submission of ads and patron listings (still \$2) because the convention program is already in the preparation stage.

A personal request from me to all members of the association is a request for support of the association in the endeavor to make this convention the best yet. It takes the support of the entire club and especially the board of governors and officers to help where they can. One way of helping is to place an ad or patron listing in the program. The ad rates are posted on page 10 of this issue.

I will also take this opportunity to extend my personal thanks to all members of the board and officers of the club for their assistance during this past year. I am fast approaching the end of my term as president but understand my successor is a very capable person for the job. Please give him the same support you have given me these past two years.

I hope that I may see all of you at the Convention in September. Until then, happy collecting.

Sincerely, Greg Tucker, President

HAVE YOU PAID YOU 1991 DUES?

Junior Member											\$	2.00
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PLEASE SEND TO: Keith Littlefield, Sec.-Treas. 3902 Rose Lane, Annandale, Virginia 22003

EDITORIAL

I'm not one to complain, at least not much, but every now and then something gets my dander up to the point where I feel impelled to get up on my soap box and tell the world, or at least the VNA membership, about it. The subject of my latest gripe is one that I hope you'll find interesting, but I expect it's one to which few have given a first though, let alone a second one.

Have you ever seen any of those souvenir facsimiles of old currency, the ones printed on parchment-like paper that has been stained a yellow brown color to make it look old? That's a rhetorical question, for I expect that all but the stone blind have seen them at one time or another. They comprise a wide range of issues, from Colonial and Continental currency to broken bank, Southern State and C.S.A. issues, including the Montgomery \$1000 note of 1861.

They are sold in sets by the gift shops at various historic sites, and even by the shop at the U.S. Mint. They come in envelopes printed in red and blue which carry no indication of the maker's name, although I believe they are produced by someone in New York. Ones printed since 1973 carry the word "COPY" as required by law, but they were produced for at least twenty years before that, and unmarked ones turn up regularly all over this country and in far-off foreign lands as well. They don't fool collectors, for anyone who knows the first thing about old notes will instantly recognize them as fakes. Those who know nothing about old money, and nothing is precisely what more than 99% of the public knows, take them for the real thing, and think that they've hit upon something old and valuable.

Dealers and museum curators will tell you that the yellow copies are a confounded nuisance, for they spend an inordinate amount of time explaining to folks who write letters, or come in person, that their "treasures" are fake. The Confederate Museum in Richmond, for one, receives far more letters (two or three a month) from people inquiring about notes that are fakes than it gets from people who have real ones. The Governor of Virginia recently received a letter from a collector in Czechoslovakia who had acquired a batch of Colonial notes, all yellow facsimiles, which he thought were genuine. Although you'll never see these fakes at coin shows, they are regularly offered at flea markets, and at fancy prices, too.

Most owners are philosophical when told that their notes aren't genuine. A few absolutely refuse to believe it, while others are indignant, claiming that aspersions are being cast upon the integrity of their ancestor in whose Bible / trunk / pocketbook, etc. the things were found. Dealing with these situations imposes a severe test on tact and patience, and also consumes a lot of valuable time.

Although the yellow fakes without the word "COPY" are no longer produced, they will be around to plague us for decades to come, and as genuine old notes get scarcer, fakes will form a larger percentage of the material we encounter. In another fifty years or so they may acquire an antiquarian value of their own, although I doubt it. They are indeed, as my mother used to say, "a pain that a pill won't reach". I wish I could suggest a solution to this problem, but I know of none. Maybe there is none, for the damage was done long ago. If any of our members and friends, who may chance to read this, and have any thoughts or opinions on the subject, would be so kind as to send them I'll be glad to publish them.

FACIAT GEORGIUS or LET GEORGE DO IT

by Jim Ruehrmund

The battle for the Island of Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands during World War II marked the first round of the epic struggle to roll back the Japanese advance across the Pacific. It was the first milestone on the long and bloody road that ended in Tokyo Bay in 1945, a culmination that too many of the participants did not live to see.

Troops of the U.S. First Marine Division under the command of Maj. Gen. Alexander A. Vandergrift, USMC, stormed ashore on Guadalcanal on 7 August 1942, meeting little initial resistance. The Japanese, taken completely by surprise, fled into the jungle, leaving to the Marines their nearly complete airfield, much equipment and tons of supplies.

That state of affairs was of short duration. The Japanese quickly rallied and fought back ferociously, while enemy air and naval forces were also thrown into the battle. On D +3, 10 August, U.S. Naval Forces, outgunned by the enemy, were withdrawn from the area, leaving the Marines on their own. All of the troops managed to get ashore, but the departing transports, only partially unloaded, took with them a heavy percentage of the Marine's ammunition, supplies and equipment. Several weeks passed before the ships returned, meanwhile the marines, subsisting on captured enemy rations, fought off a series of savage Japanese attacks, while working feverishly to complete the airfield, using captured Japanese equipment fueled with captured Japanese gasoline.

Although most of the surviving Marines now acknowledge that there was no alternative to the Navy's withdrawal, it certainly rankled at the time, and perhaps to some degree it still does. It was the chief subject of conversation at the bull sessions that the Marines held during infrequent quiet moments, and at one of these sessions, Col. (later Major General) Merrill B. Twining of Gen. Vandergrift's staff suggested with typical sardonic Marine humor that the event should be commemorated by a medal. He also suggested that the medal's suspension ribbon be made of worn green twill fabric from a marine utility uniform, and that its principal motto be "LET GEORGE DO IT", the division's unofficial motto from stateside training days, when they always seemed to draw more than their due share of onerous assignments. It was decided that the motto should be translated into Latin, which was done by Capt. Martin Clemens, an Australian coast watcher who was the British civil representative in the Solomon Islands. Capt. Clemens, once the motto's meaning was explained to him (it's not current in Australia), and he was assured that it had nothing to do with King George VI, came up with the translation, "FACIAT GEORGIUS".

The obverse design was to consist of an arm dropping a hot potato into the outstretched arms of a Marine. As originally envisioned, the arm was to have admiral's stripes on the sleeve, but these were tactfully omitted when the medals were produced. Although cactus does not grow on Guadalcanal, a cactus plant was included in the design since the code name for the island was "Cactus".

The reverse features a cow backing its tail end into an electric fan, a symbolic representation of a favorite old Marine expression about the "stuff" hitting the fan. The reverse has an inscription in five lines which reads:

IN FOND REMEMBRANCE OF THE HAPPY DAYS SPENT FROM AUG. 7th 1942 TO JAN. 5TH 1943 U.S.M.C.

As time passed other topics of conversation replaced the medal, but one member of the group did not forget. Just who this was is uncertain, Gen. Twining always denied that it was he, but whoever it was had drawings



THE "LET GEORGE DO IT" MEDAL

This example is in the collection of the U.S. Marine Corps Air-Ground Museum, Quantico, Virginia

Note that this medal has no pin for attaching it to the uniform. They were apparently issued that way, but some recipients hung theirs from the oversize safety pins used for closing Navy shipboard laundry bags.

prepared. The artist was Capt. Donald L. Dickson, later a colonel, and now deceased, who drew the designs on a captured Japanese post card, using a half dollar to draw the circles.

After the Marines were withdrawn from Guadalcanal and sent to Australia the unknown individual, apparently at his own expense, commissioned an artist to make a mold and cast the medals in brass. Casting offered the only practical way to produce them quickly at least cost. Die striking was probably not even considered, due to high cost, time required and the impossibility of finding a die sinker in wartime Australia. Accounts of the medal's production state that at some point in the process the mold broke, and that a new one was prepared, with the second medal slightly larger than the original one, but this is probably not strictly accurate. A mold, said to be the second one, is in the collection of the Marine Corps Museum in Quantico, Virginia. It is made of an aluminum alloy, but an aluminum mold cannot be used for casting brass. The melting temperature of aluminum is lower than that of brass, and if used in this way, the aluminum mold would have melted.

It seems very likely that the museum's mold is the original, and that it was used to make wax patterns for casting by the lost was process. In this procedure a wax pattern is embedded in a refractory plaster, which is baked to burn out the wax. Molten metal is then poured into the cavity, and when it has cooled the mold is broken to retrieve the casting. A separate mold must be made for each casting.

The slight difference in size between the mold and the existing medals can be accounted for by the shrinkage which occurs when the molten metal solidifies. With brass this runs from about 1.5 to 2 percent.

As can be seen in the illustration, the mold impression includes a suspension loop, but this could not be used, not only because it would have been fragile and subject to breakage, but chiefly because of its orientation parallel with the face of the medal. To properly accommodate the jump ring which connects the medal to its ribbon, the suspension loop must lie at right angles to the plane of the medal. Once the medals were cast, they were equipped with a separate suspension ring which is soldered or brazed on, a normal feature of official medals of that era.

The number of medals made is not known; some accounts say as few as twenty, others fifty. Still others claim that as many as several hundred were produced, but that figure is probably much too high. If that many had been made they would appear in the collector's market once in a while, which has never been the case. If the lost wax process was used, making as many as fifty medals would have entailed a great deal of work, and once the word got out, there must have been far more applicants than could be accommodated. Perhaps the story of the broken mold was a tactful dodge to explain why no more medals could be made.

Each medal was duly fitted with a "ribbon" made of the faded green twill fabric from some Marine's well worn utility uniform, and they were quietly distributed to various of the Marine officers who had been on Guadalcanal. No record exists as to how many were presented, and to whom, and it is more than likely that no list of recipients was ever compiled.

Despite, or maybe because of the medal's entirely unofficial status, recip-



The Medal Mold

pients have treasured them as irreplaceable momentos of those stirring days nearly half a century ago. Few, if any, have been willing to part with their medals, except as donations to museums. The Marine Corps Museum has several, one of which was presented about twenty years ago by Brig. Gen. James J. Keating, USMC (Ret.), who led a battalion on Guadalcanal. Gen. Keating, who was also the donor of the mold, must have known a lot more about the medal's origin than he ever told.

The full story on the creation of the George Medal may never be known, but there's still a chance that a complete account of the business, may yet come to light. In the meantime, if you're thinking of adding one of these medals to your collection, you'd better forget it, for you're in for a long and probably fruitless quest.

SOURCES:

"Let George Do It" by P.L. Thompson, LETHERNECK MAGAZINE, August, 1982

"The George Medal" by F.B. Nihart, THE OLD BREED NEWS of the First Marine Division Association, Inc., November 1973.

Sincere thanks to LEATHERNECK MAGAZINE for permission to reproduce their illustrations; to my friend, Mr. Malcolm L. Padgette, Jr., of Richmond, Va., a member of the 1st. Marine Division who landed on Guadalcanal on 7 August 1942, and who furnished the material for this article; and to Mrs. Nancy King of the Marine Corps Museum, who provided information on the museum's medals and molds.

THE HOWS AND WHYS OF COIN EXHIBITS

by Terry A. Campbell

Reprinted from WORLD COIN NEWS, 14 June 1988

When designing a coin exhibit, the first thing you need to determine is a theme. It might be Queen Elizabeth silver dollars, or medals and woods of a local coin club. Make sure your sets are complete. Should they not be, mention this in your information along with the dates of the missing pieces.

Next you require an information source or books dealing with these subject matters — not just mint information and all that other bureaucratic

mumbo jumbo.

Inquire about the engravers and their lives and loves. Do a little research into the lives of the monarchs featured on the coins or notes you are displaying. You'll have fun and increase your knowledge while relaying that information through your display.

Once you have all this material together, stop! Have you any ideas as to how you're going to present your display? How are you going to raise the coins above the exhibit case's bottom? What are you going to use for a title?

These and a thousand more questions will be answered for you by going to a coin show and looking at other displays. Take a notebook with you

and record any new ideas you pirate from these exhibits.

After the judges have completed their marking, approach them and tell them about your desire to create your own exhibit. Most will be happy to go around with you and critique the displays at the show. In this manner you will learn from other people's mistakes and save yourself from falling into the same traps.

Now retrace your steps. Return to the library and go through the Dewey card file again. You say you looked up Queen Victoria once. Did you look up Victoria, Queen? You'll be surprised by the number of books listed that

way.

Don't just use your own town library; check out neighboring towns too. So what if you can't borrow the book. You can sit there and take notes for

an hour without hurting anyone.

Your information about the coins in your display is of paramount importance. Make sure you include all of the following items: mintage, engraver(s) and whether their initials appear on the pieces and if so where, metallic composition of the coins (their diameter, thickness and weight are key elements too), and the mint where the coins were struck. Also find out, if you can, the mint where the blank planchets were struck and the metal manufacturer who supplied the metal strip. From what mine was dug the ore that made the metal strip?

Are you breathless yet? I am.

Most judges would be overwhelmed by this fountain of knowledge and would give you high marks because of it. Make sure your information is typed, double spaced. Any titles should be underlined and capitalized. Accurate spelling is a key ingredient.

The background is the most important focal point of your exhibit. This will attract the passersby in the shopping mall who have little or no interest in coins, apart from spending them.

Your exhibit case should have a piece of brightly colored cloth or con-

struction paper for the overall backdrop. On this should be placed pictures, postcards, magazines, books, or other colorful items relating to the theme. Should the backdrop conflict colorwise with one of your pictures, put a piece of blank, white writing paper under the picture. This will act as a neutralizer to alleviate the contrast and resolve the problem.

The coins should be placed on something to elevate them above the other objects in the case. One method I have used successfully is to cover a piece of wood with a cloth. The cloth should have its loose ends either taped or tacked to the wood's bottom side, where it will be hidden. The

coins could also be placed on a book used in the display.

The title should be concise but all inclusive. It must describe the display's theme without omitting any information concerning the subject.

The letters used in the title could come from numerous sources. Juniors could cut words or letters from magazines or newspapers. Do you have a Scrabble game in your home? Use the letters from it Letraset costs money, as do the gold letters displayed in stationery stores, but the expense makes the display look more professional.

Again, it is important to have the title elevated to better catch the viewer's eyes. A sample title could be "Silver Dollars of Queen Elizabeth", but omitting the word "Canada" could cost you marks if your display were

Canadian silver dollars.

Should you not have a display case to put your exhibit in, don't be shy about approaching the club executive where you plan on displaying. Ask him or her if you could borrow a case from the club on the show date. I'm quite sure one will be happily supplied.

Should you have your own case, set up your display at home and get constructive criticism from your spouse, friends, neighbors, or whomever. Try setting up your exhibit at a coin club meeting and listen to people's

comments.

Are you a bit of a carpenter, or do you know someone who is? Why don't you build a case or two?

Find out the dimensions by contacting your local club or other coin group. These organizations will gladly provide you with such information.

When setting up your exhibit, make sure the case's glass — interior and

exterior — is clean. Do this first at home with your own case.

If you're borrowing a case from a club, bring glass cleaner and paper towel with you. Clean the case before putting in the exhibit's contents. That way the window cleaner will not drip into the case on its contents.

After you've wiped the glass clean with the towel, rub a piece of crumpled-up newspaper over the glass. This will eliminate any streaking. Check the outside glass later in the day. It may have to be cleaned again because people may have left fingerprints behind.

A few days before the show, set your display up at home on the kitchen table if you don't have a case. In this manner you will know exactly how you want everything shown. That way you won't be standing there fussing and fidgeting with you exhibit at 2 p.m. when the judges show up with the

marking sheets.

Ask the judges after the awards ceremony to go back to the exhibit room with you to critique your display. Once again, have your pen and notebook handy to record everything they say. They can point out any mistakes you may have made or suggest ways you can improve your exhibit.

Now we get to the good stuff — rewards. There are quite a few.

Speaking from my experience, one of the better awards will be the pride you'll experience from the work and effort expended in creating this beautiful document — your display. In addition there will be the thanks expressed to you from the various clubs where you static demonstration is entered. No coin show is complete without some stationary money exhibits.

There will be the exhibitors ribbon you'll get to wear the day of the show, the red, blue or white ribbons that will possibly decorate your case after the award ceremony, and the big piece of hardware (best-of-show trophy) that may eventually decorate the mantel piece above your fireplace (gathering dust in years to come) — if you persist in your displaying and do all of the aforementioned things.

Finally, there's the greatest reward of all: you are no longer an ordinary coin collector. You have earned the title "Numismatist".

ACKNOWLEDGMENT. Sincere thanks to WORLD COIN NEWS for permission to reprint this article, and to Larry Chavis for sending it in. With our 1991 Show only four months away, here are some good tips you can use in getting your exhibit together.

THE 1991 VNA SHOW

VNA's 1991 Coin Show, our 33rd., will once again be held at the Richmond Centre, Fifth & Marshall Streets, Richmond, Va. The dates are: Friday, 20 September, through Sunday, 22 September. Dealer setup time is 5:00-8:30 p.m. on Thursday, 19 September. Table rates are:

Regular: \$200 Wall: \$225 Corner: \$250

For contracts or further information, contact the Bourse Chairman: Jim Harvey, P.O. Box 36167, Richmond, VA 23235; Tel. (804) 320-5632.

1991 VNA CONVENTION PROGRAM

The sale of ads in our convention program helps with the cost of presenting the convention and coin show. Members, member clubs and friends are urged to lend their support by taking ads. The cost is:

Full Page, \$25.00 ½ Page, \$15.00 ¼ Page, \$7.50

You can be listed in the program as a VNA patron for the sum of just \$2.00. Send your ads / patron listings with check payable to the Virginia Numismatic Association to:

THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST, 712 Westover Rd., Richmond, VA 23220

MARYLAND CONVENTION & SHOW

Don't forget the Maryland State Numismatic Association's 19th Annual Convention and Coin Show, June 21-23, 1991, at Festival Hall in Baltimore. The show will feature an outstanding bourse plus exhibits and Young Numismatist and Educational Programs. For information on tables, write to:

Paul R. Singleton, P.O. Box 894, Annandale, VA 22003

NEWS OF OUR CLUBS

ALEXANDRIA COIN CLUB. Meets at 8:00 PM on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St., Alexandria, Va.

BLUE RIDGE COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 PM on the last Tuesday of each month at 105 North 1st St., in Charlottesville.

MOUNTAINEER COIN CLUB. Meets at 1 PM on the 1st Sunday of each month at Hardee's Restaurant, 376 High St., Morgantown, WV.

PIEDMONT COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 PM on the 4th Tuesday of each month at the YMCA in Collinsville, VA.

RICHMOND COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 PM the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Signet Bank Building, 7 North 8th St. in Richmond. At the March meeting, Jim Ruehrmund presented a talk on Paper Money, and in April the group held a panel discussion on the Coins of the Emerging Democracies of Eastern Europe.

ROANOKE COIN CLUB. Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Roanoke City Library on Jefferson St.

SALEM COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month in Room B of the Salem Civic Center at 7:30 PM. The club held its Annual Spring Show on May 4 & 5 at the American Legion Building in Salem.

SHENANDOAH VALLEY COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at the Mary Switzer Building, Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center, Fishersville, VA, at 7:30 PM. An auction was held at the March meeting.

SOUTHSIDE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION. Meets at 7:30 PM on the 4th Monday of each month in the community room at Cavalier Square Shopping Center in Hopewell.

STONEWALL JACKSON COIN CLUB. Meets at 8:00 PM on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Veterans of Foreign Wars, 430 W. Pike St., Clarksburg, WV.

TIDEWATER COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd Wednesday each month at the Lake Wright Motor Hotel on Northampton Blvd., Virginia Beach.

WASHINGTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY. Meets at the DC Congregational Church, 3526 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. The February program, "The English Numismatic Literature Scene Today", was presented by WNS member Harry Manville. Seven members exhibited interesting material, with the prize going to Jim Hirtle for his display of Canadian tokens. They also raffled off a gold coin, which was won by Sam Butland.

WILLIAMSBURG COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 PM on the 1st Friday of each month at Mortimer's Locksmith Shop in Norge, Va. Take Norge exit from I-64. At the March meeting Pres. Duane McSmith led a panel discussion on the subject of Ancient Greek and Roman Coins.

VIRGINIA PENINSULA COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 PM on the 3rd Monday of each month at the War Memorial Museum in Newport News. The March theme, "Effects of War on Coins & Currency", included presentations on Civil War Tokens, Coins of the Persian Gulf States, Currency of French Indo-China (by Merv Reynolds) and Spanish Colonial Issues (by Jim Ross).

ANCIENT NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON. Meets in the homes of members. For information, write to W.E. McGovern, P.O. Box 2495, Gaithersburg, MD 20886.

O PLEASE READ THIS! O

THANKS to the clubs that have sent in accounts of their activities. If more of our clubs would do the same, NEWS OF OUR CLUBS could become a useful source of ideas for programs. If you will just sent the information,

you can rest assured that it will be published.

I'm always glad to publish all show notices, announcements, etc. which will interest VNA members; including items sent in by non-members. Subject to the vagaries of the Postal System, the magazine is delivered late in the months of Jan., March, May, July, Sept. and Nov. It goes to the printer the first week of the month preceding the month of issue, except for the Jan. issue, which must go to press in mid-Nov. due to the holiday break. For a show in March, for example, I'll need to have the notice by early Nov. in order to get it into the Jan. issue. The March issue would be too late; the show will probably be past before the magazine is delivered. As soon as you set your show dates, please send me the information right away. I want to help you, but I need your help to do it...Jim R. Ed.

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SHOW CALENDAR

May 29	Towson, MD Quality Inn, 1015 York Rd.	TOWSON COIN SHOW
June 21-23	Baltimore, MD Festival Hall	MARYLAND STATE NUMISMATIC ASSOC.
June 30	Towson, MD Quality Inn, 1015 York Rd.	TOWSON COIN SHOW
July 12-14	New Carrolton, MD Sheraton Inn	METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON NUMISMATIC ASSOC.
July 28	Towson, MD Quality Inn, 1015 York Rd.	TOWSON COIN SHOW
Aug. 3-4	Vienna, VA Vienna Community Center	NORTHERN VA COIN CLUB SHOW
Aug. 13-18	Chicago, IL Rosemont/O'Hare Expo. Ctr.	AMERICAN NUMSIMATIC ASSOCIATION
Sept. 20-22	Richmond, VA Richmond Centre	VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION
Sept. 27-29	Cherry Hill, NJ Hyatt	THIRD INTERNATIONAL PAPER MONEY CONV.
Oct. 18-20	New Carrollton, MD Sheraton Greenbelt	MIDDLE ATLANTIC NUMISMATIC ASSOC.

SHOW CALENDAR POLICY

The Show Calendar lists both club and commercial shows in Virginia and neighboring states, plus ANA and MANA events wherever held. To have your show listed, send a notice to:

VNA, 712 Westover Rd., Richmond, VA 23220: TEL: 804-358-0525



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WANTED: Notes with full S.C. UPHAM imprint. Sam Roakes, 281 Rustic Ridge Drive, Kennesaw, GA 30144

WANTED: Uncirculated type coins of New Zealand. Robert M. New, PO Box 1124, Roanoke Rapids, NC 27870

DAMAGED, LOW-GRADE, and/or problemed coins wanted: Early American, Spanish, Colonial, pre-1965 Australian & pre-1850 British. Copper, silver or gold. Send description or ship.
David Consolvo, Rt. 1, Box 310, Covesville, VA 22931

WOODEN NICKELS from '86, '87, '88, '89 & '90 VNA conventions are still available. Price 50¢ plus SASE. Order from: VNA, 515 Pinehurst Avenue, Colonial Heights, VA 23834

FOR SALE: Two different tokens from ATLANTIC CRAB CO., PERRIN, VA, \$5.00 plus SASE.
Page Mann, PO Box 1684, Williamsburg, VA 23187-1684

WANTED: Maverick canning/packing tokens. Elvin B. Miller, PO Box 366, Topping, VA 23169

WANTED for Editor's File: Copies of THE VA. NUMISMATIST for Feb. April, June & Aug., 1965; and all issues of THE HALF PENNY, VNA's first magazine.

Jim Ruehrmund, 712 Westover Rd., Richmond, VA 23220; (804) 358-0525.

Send your ad of 30 words or less (not including name & address) to: Page Mann, PO Box 1684, Williamsburg, VA 23187-1684

APPLICANTS FOR MEMBERSHIP

The following applicant will become a member of the Virginia Numismatic Association 20 days after the mailing of this notice unless objections are received, in which case the VNA Board will decide.

Applicant Sponsor L.D. Mitchell, Laurel, Maryland Keith Littlefield

FOR SALE

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Fr. #601	PB Romney #9766 VF
Fr. #606	PB Sistersville #5028 ti.2, CU
Fr. #613	RS Parkersburg #180 XF
Fr. #624	PB Moorefield #3029 XF
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Fr. #624	PB Philippi #6377 VG +
Fr. #624	PB Philippi #6302 VG
Fr. #626	PB Elm Grove #8983 XF
Fr. #626	PB Ansted #8904 VG
Fr. #628	PB Martinsburg #4811 VF
Fr. #632	PB St. Mary's #5226 F +
Fr. #632	PB Ripley #10762 VG/F
Fr. #633	PB New Martinsvile #5266 F/VF
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Fr. #652	PB Ansted #8904 VF
Fr. #654	PB Huntington #4607 UNC but 1 lt.fold 145.00
Fr. #658	PB Sistersville #5028, title 2, abt. XF
Fr. #660	PB Middlebourne #6170 F

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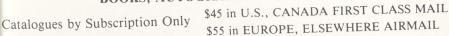
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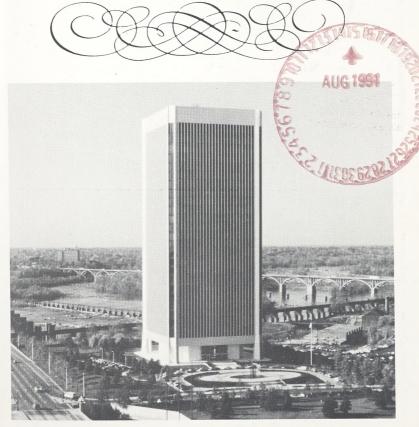
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THE YIRGINIA NUMISMATIST



Richmond's Federal Reserve Bank

VOLUME 27 NUMBER 4 JULY 1991



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We're in constant contact with collectors and investors from all walks of life. The vast amount of information we receive daily is interpreted to bring you the up-to-the-minute news.

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Full Page	\$20.00	\$ 95.00					
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(Non-Contract Advertising accepted in the Order received, providing space is available. Please reserve space early.) All Advertising copy must be typed.

Advertisers please note: No Ads will be accepted from Minors without their parents consent. All ads must have Numismatic significance. Special or unusual copy requirements will be billed extra. If in doubt, please write for details.

The Virginia Numismatic Association has on file the names and addresses of all Advertisers. Any complaints or requests for information regarding advertisers should be referred to The Virginia Numismatic Association at 712 Westover Road, Richmond, Virginia 23220. The right to edit copy, to require payment in advance, and to decline any advertisement is specifically reserved.

ADVERTISING COPY DEADLINES

The deadline for all copy is the first of the month preceding month of issue (e.g., April 1st for May 10th issue).

THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

VOLUME 27 NUMBER 4 JULY 1991

The VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST is the Official Publication of The Virginia Numismatic Association, Inc. and is published six times each year. Articles and items for publication are welcomed and solicited. All six issues are mailed from Hampton, Virginia at the Third Class Postal Rate and cannot be forwarded, so be sure and send us your change of address.

All mail relating to The Virginia Numismatist and Advertising therein should be directed to Jim Ruehrmund, Editor, 712 Westover Road, Richmond, Va. 23220.

Direct all other correspondence about membership, address changes, etc. to the secretary-treasurer, Keith Littlefield, 3902 Rose Lane, Annandale, Virginia 22003.

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Hello again,

This will be my last letter before the convention, which, by the time you read this, will be only two months away. We'll be back at the Richmond Centre again this year. The dates are September 20, 21 and 22, so make your plans now to be there and join in the fun. As we've done for the past several years, your election ballot and hotel reservation form are enclosed with this issue of the magazine. Send in your hotel reservation promptly to be sure of getting a room. This year's election will be for the offices

of President, 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents, Secretary-Treasurer and five members of the Board of Directors. I ask each of you to mark your ballot and send it in promptly. We need your support in this. Directors Charlie Hagaman and Mal Powell have decided not to run for re-election, and on their departure from the board I wish to thank them both on behalf of VNA for their services to the Association.

Table sales for the show are going well, so if you're planning to take a table, you'd better contact Bourse Chairman Jim Harvey soon so you'll be sure to get the location you want. See page 5 for details.

It is sad to report the death on May 13th of VNA member Wesley Sawyer of Chester, Virginia, who worked so hard to promote last year's convention. His obituary appears on page 17 of this issue, and VNA extends heartfelt sympathy to his family.

Hope to see all of you at the Richmond Centre in September.

Sincerely, Greg Tucker, President

HAVE YOU PAID YOU 1991 DUES?

Junior Member	 	 	\$ 2.00
Regular Member	 	 	\$ 7.00
Club or Organization			\$10.00

PLEASE SEND TO: Keith Littlefield, Sec.-Treas. 3902 Rose Lane, Annandale, Virginia 22003

A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Mr. Ruehrmund,

I wanted to thank the officers and members of the VNA for the recent cash donation to the Thomas Jefferson for Science & Technology Coin Club. I'm proud to be a member of an organization which if first and foremost an organization for the collector. If our hobby is to survive, it must rely on associations and clubs such as the VNA to recruit and train our Young Numismatists (YNs).

As you recognize, it is not cheap to run a program which develops coin collectors. Most of our Jefferson YNs start with only a curiosity about coins. To take a YN from curiosity to the status of a dedicated coin collector takes

a lot of time and effort. It also takes money.

In order to understand why it takes money to develop a YN in the Jefferson H.S. Coin Club, I have to refer to my numismatic experience in Virginia. I have been president of the Alexandria Coin Club, Executive Director of the Metropolitan Washington Numismatic Assoc., and a governor on the board of the Maryland State Numismatic Assoc. In all three organizations we tried major projects to recruit YNs. None of them was successful. We just couldn't get down to the grass roots level where we could get access to any significant number of potential YNs.

I became frustrated at the lack of success, so I dropped my organizational positions and decided to try another approach. Since I spend half of the school days as a substitute teacher at Thomas Jefferson H.S., I started a

school coin club.

The first two years of the Jefferson Coin Club were not very encouraging. We had one meeting a month, averaging 4 to 6 YNs at the meetings, and probably developed a total of 8 or strong collectors in the two years. This year is very different. We now meet weekly with 11 to 14 YNs at each meeting, and have almost two dozen active members. Obviously it takes much time and effort to develop an active YN club.

How do the club meetings operate?

1. Each meeting starts with a quiz, with questions from the Red Book.

2. Correct answers get foreign or American coins as prizes.

3. We then discuss any coin topic which the students want to cover.

4. Occasionally we have a coin trading session after the quiz.

Every YN is given a Red Book on joining the club. They also start American and foreign coin collections because of the prizes from the quizzes (you may consider the prizes to be bribes, but they put a wide variety of potential collecting areas into the hands of the YNs. If we can get them "hooked" on at least one area of coin collecting, we may have a lifetime collector.)

I also give the YNs new or used plastic pages, 2X2 coin holders, new or

used coin albums and other numismatic reference books.

The Jefferson program is not perfect, however, it does work. This school year we have developed at least 12 new YNs, maybe as many as 16. But this is only one school in one small area of our state. We need a much bigger effort than this if we are to save our hobby.

Thanks to you, the VNA, I am able to offer more to the Jefferson YNs than my limited personal budget would allow. I wish our national organization, the ANA, would be as responsive as the VNA.

Thank you, all of you, again.

Jesse H. Martin

EDITOR'S RESPONSE

Dear Jesse,

Many thanks for your kind and thoughtful letter. Operating a YN program doesn't merely take a lot of time and effort, it also requires a whole lot of dedication, and your dedication to the development of YNs certainly does you proud. VNA is indeed fortunate to have members like yourself, who are actively working to advance our hobby.

With best wishes for continued success in your work.

Sincerely, Jim Ruehrmund

NOTE: Support of Col. Martin's YN program is not just a one shot deal. He needs a constant supply of U.S. & foreign coins, supplies and reference books (new or used). VNA members and clubs are urged to support this worthy project by sending such items to:

Col Jesse H. Martin 6119 Bardu Avenue Springfield, VA 22152

COME BACK TO ANA

Are you a former member of the American Numismatic Association? Are you one of those former members who has thought of rejoining, but held back because you couldn't get your original membership number back unless you paid the dues of all of the intervening years since you dropped out? If you are, 1991 is the year to come back to ANA.

As part of its centennial celebration this year, ANA is offering a special inducement to lapsed and returning members under which they can regain their old ANA membership numbers at substantial saving.

For example, if your membership lapsed in 1986, and you rejoined this year, to regain your old membership number, you would normally have to pay dues for each of the five years you had not been a member, a total of \$146. However, if you rejoin under this special offer, you can regain your old membership number for only \$51, a saving of 65%.

The cost of regaining an inactive ANA membership under this special offer depends on how long the member has been inactive.

For those whose membership has lapsed:

- 1 to 5 years, the fee is \$51, for a saving of up to 65%
- 6 to 10 years, the fee is \$61, for a saving of up to 73%
 11 to 15 years, the fee is \$76, for a saving of up to 73%
- 16 years and more, the fee is \$86, for a saving of up to 86%

The offer does not affect membership longevity awards which are based on continuous paid years of ANA membership.

To obtain more information on rejoining, contact the American Numismatic Association, 818 North Cascade Ave., Colorado Springs, CO 80903-3279, or telephone 719/632-2646.

The offer expires on December 31, 1991, so don't delay, act now.

VNA CONVENTION NEWS

This year's VNA Convention and Coin Show, our 33rd. will be held again in Richmond. The dates are Friday, September 20 through Sunday, September 22, 1991. The show will be at the same place as last year, the Richmond Centre at Fifth and Marshall Streets. Since the Richmond Mariott was unable to provide us with accommodations, Convention Headquarters will again be the Days Inn Downtown at Seventh and Marshall Streets. The Days Inn is just two blocks from the Richmond Centre.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Your hotel reservation card is enclosed with this issue of THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST. Send it in promptly so you'll be sure of getting a room, and don't forget to indicate that you are attending the VNA Convention. The room rate, \$45.99 per night, includes the city tax.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

The annual business meeting of the Virginia Numismatic Association will be held on Saturday, September 21, 1991. Location will be announced. Items of business to be considered include certification of officer elections, plans for the 1992 convention, and status of the new edition of the Catalog of Obsolete Virginia Currency. All VNA members are welcome to attend.

BOURSE

The bourse will open to the public at 10 a.m. on all three days. Admission is free. Whatever it is you need for your collection, you will probably find it among the wide variety of coins, tokens, paper money, medals, etc. which the dealers will be offering. There'll be something for every taste and budget. Don't fail to visit all of the tables, and always ask if you don't see what you're looking for. The dealers will often have brought more material than they have room to display. The dealers will also be buying, so bring along your surplus items to sell or trade.

No insurance will be carried on either bourse materials or exhibits, but guard service will be maintained 24 hours a day in these two areas for the duration of the show.

BOURSE TABLES

Rates for Bourse tables:

Regular: \$200 Wall: \$225 Corner: \$250

Dealer setup time is 5:00-8:30 p.m., Thursday, 19 Sept. For contracts, or further information, contact Bourse Chairman Jim Harvey, P.O. Box 36167, Richmond, VA 23235; Tel. (804) 320-5632.

EXHIBITS

Write to Exhibit Chairman James M. Beard, 317 Miller St., Lexington, VA 24450 to obtain exhibit forms and reserve space for your exhibit. Sharing your numismatic interests with others through exhibiting calls for a lot of work, but it is well worth the effort, so do plan to put in an exhibit.

As noted on the exhibit forms, VNA is unable to supply exhibit cases, and exhibitors are requested to bring their own.

No insurance will be carried on exhibits, or bourse materials but guard service will be maintained 24 hours a day in these two areas for the duration of the show.

CONVENTION PROGRAM

The sale of ads in the convention program helps with the show expenses, and we appeal to our members and friends to support VNA by taking an ad in this year's program. The cost is:

Full page, \$25.00 ½ page, \$15.00 ¼ page, \$7.50 You can be listed in the program as a patron for \$2.00. Send your ad copy and check to VNA, 712 Westover Rd., Richmond, VA 23220

ANNUAL BANQUET

The banquet will be held Saturday evening following a cash bar social hour. After dinner the newly elected officers will be installed, awards will be presented, and we will hear an interesting address by our featured speaker. The number of banquet seats is limited, so be sure to purchase your dinner tickets at the time you register for the convention.

OUR DINNER SPEAKER

Our speaker this year is Dr. Richard G. Doty, of the National Numismatic Collections, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., where he is Curator of Western Hemisphere Numismatics and World Paper Money. Dick, who is a member of numerous numismatic societies, including VNA, will be joining us fresh from his return from the International Numismatic Congress in Brussels, Belgium, where he is to present two papers. The subject of his address to us will be "Recycling Artistic Capital", the story of Colonial silversmiths who exercised their engraving talents in the production of paper money.

RAG PICKERS GET TOGETHER

The annual meeting of the "Rag Pickers" will be held Saturday evening following the banquet. Location will be announced. This annual event has no formal agenda, but it's always entertaining. Many big names in the paper money field will be there, and the conversation is always stimulating. If you have any interest at all in paper money you should make it a point to attend.

VNA PUBLICATIONS

VNA publications on paper money, tokens, etc. will be offered for sale at the registration desk. Buy them at the show and save on postage.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership applications will be available at the registration desk. New members who join at the convention are paid up through the end of 1992, so urge your non-member friends to sign up. Members can pay their 1992 dues at the registration desk, which will save VNA the trouble and expense of sending a bill.

COME AND HAVE FUN

Come and bring your family, and urge your friends to come too. There are plenty of things in Richmond to keep everyone occupied during the weekend. The Federal Reserve Bank's Money Museum should be on your must see list. For information on the museum, and directions for reaching it, see the article on page 8.

The following museums and historic spots are all within easy walking distance of the convention site: The Museum and White House of the

Confederacy, the Valentine Museum, The Childrens Museum, the John Marshall House, the Maggie Walker House and the Virginia State Capitol.

A bit further afield, but still worth a visit are the National Battlefield Park Visitors Center at 32nd and Broad Streets, and the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts on North Boulevard. Unfortunately, the Greek and Roman coins at the Museum of Fine Arts will not be on display, due to renovation work in progress.

PARKING

The Richmond parking meter rate is 50¢ per hour, but meter fees are not required on Saturdays and Sundays. A number of parking lots and decks are located close to the Richmond Centre. These include the 7th & Marshall Deck (entrance on 7th Street) their rate is 75¢ per hour with \$5 max., but you can park there FREE on Saturdays and Sundays; two Park America lots, one on 5th St. directly behind the Richmond Centre, and another across 5th behind the Richmond Coliseum, charge \$2.50 per day from 6am to 5pm. There is also a new Virginia Park deck at 5th and Marshall Streets directly across 5th Street from the Richmond Centre, and connected with the Centre by a covered bridge. It is open from 7am to 5pm, and the rate there is \$1.25 per hour, with a maximum of \$7.50, although it's the most convenient, it's also the most costly.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS, 1991

The Nominating Committee has reported the following slate of candidates for offices whose current terms expire in September 1991:

For President James M. Harvey, Jr., Richmond, Virginia For First Vice President . . Richard B. Coltrane, Newport News, Virginia For Second Vice President . . Stephen Bennett, Ill, Petersburg, Virginia For Secretary-Treasurer Keith Littlefield, Annandale, Virginia

For Board of Directors (VOTE FOR FIVE)

Louis E. Doucet, Petersburg, Virginia

Raymond G. Haymaker, Clifton Forge, Virginia

Duane McSmith, Norge, Virginia W. Page Mann, Williamsburg, Virginia

Mervyn H. Reynolds, Newport News, Virginia

All members are urged to exercise their right to vote. Your ballot is enclosed with this issue of the magazine. Please mark it and return it promptly to the Secretary, Keith Littlefield, 3902 Rose Lane, Annandale, VA 22003

APPLICANTS FOR MEMBERSHIP

The following individuals have applied for membership in the Virginia Numismatic Association, and will become members within 20 days from the mailing of this notice unless some adverse reaction is received, in which case the matter will be acted upon by the Board of Directors.

Applicant Sponsor Williamsburg Coin Club, Williamsburg, Virginia Jim Ruehrmund Benjamin M. Lowe, Woodbridge, Virginia Jim Ruehrmund

A RICHMOND TREASURE THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANK'S MONEY MUSEUM

During your trip to Richmond for this year's VNA Convention, don't fail to plan a visit to the Federal Reserve Bank's Money Museum. Going on the assumption that everyone in VNA is interested in old money of one kind or another, there will be very few among us who won't find much to admire in the museum's collection of coins, paper money, primitive media of exchange and money-related artifacts, all of which are elegantly displayed. The museum, located on the ground floor of the Federal Reserve Building, is open Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Admission is free.

The museum is the brain-child of the late Mr. J. Hammond Siler, of the Bank's Publicity Department, who believed that an institution so vital to the financial life of the community should have a museum illustrating the history of coins and currency. He worked for years to acquire material, but did not live to see the culmination of his efforts. Sufficient space for a museum was not available in the Bank's old quarters, but once it moved to its present building, the museum was established. It was dedicated in June, 1980.

The collection of coins ranges from ancient times, right up to the present. The earliest coin displayed is a silver stater issued between 561-546 B.C. by King Croesus of Lydia, an ancient kingdom located in what is now Turkey. Another interesting early piece is a 1486 silver guldiner of the Austrian Tyrol, the first dollar-size silver coin, and the first to bear its year of issue. American coins are well represented with displays of Colonial coins, nineteenth and twentieth century issues, and U.S. commemoratives. There is also a display which illustrates the steps in the production of coins.

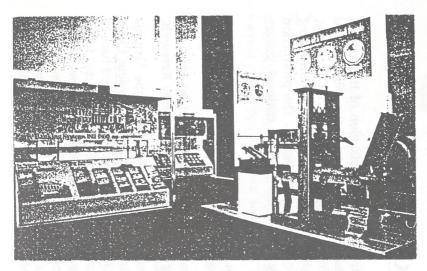
Our own Charlie Affleck assisted in the formation of the paper money collection, and, as you might expect, it is a choice one. It includes Colonial and Continental currency, early bank notes, a wide selection of Virginia notes, Confederate currency, and much choice U.S. material. The display of U.S. high denomination notes is especially striking, and it will make even veteran "Rag Pickers" eat their hearts out. They have \$500, \$1,000, \$5,000 and \$10,000 Federal Reserve notes plus an uncut sheet if twelve \$100.000 gold certificates. A display on the making of paper money traces the production process from the artist's sketch to the finished note.

Primitive media of exchange include a Tibetan tea brick, stone money from Yap in the Caroline Islands, cowrie shells, an African Manilla and a Katanga Cross, Thai "Bullet" and "Tiger Tongue" money, and a variety of other odd and interesting currencies.

On one wall stand cases holding a 999.80 fine gold bar weighing 401.75 troy ounces and a 999.75 fine silver bar of 1061.16 troy ounces. Each case is equipped with two digital readout panels, one showing the current price per ounce of the metal, and the other showing the bar's current value. Even with precious metal prices at their present depressed levels, these are impressive.

Large artifacts are displayed uncased on platforms, where they can be viewed from all sides. These include:

 A replica of an early screw press of ca. 1792, used in the first Philadelphia mint.



A view of the Money Museum

- An early 19th Century strip rolling machine, used for rolling assay strips.
- A full scale replica of the Franklin Printing Press of ca. 1725. Presses of this type were used to print Colonial currency.
- A gold box used in the 19th Century to transport gold bullion.
- A 6 foot beam balance of 20,000 ounce capacity, used from 1901 to 1969 at the Philadelphia Mint for weighing precious metal blanks and coins.
- An automatic coin weighing scale of 1910.
- Coin Scoops used in the mint for shoveling coins and blanks, and perhaps the culprits for the digs that made your coin less than MS 65.

HOW TO GET THERE

Although it is built on low ground down by the James River, Richmond's Federal Reserve Bank, which is illustrated on the front cover, is a building that is hard to miss, as it can be seen for miles. To get there from the Richmond Centre, go south seven blocks on Fifth Street (you can't turn the wrong way, as it's a one way street). When you reach Byrd Street, turn left; The Bank is at 701 East Byrd St.

Sincere thanks to Ms. Doris E. Harless, Curator of the Federal Reserve Money Museum, who supplied the information for this article.

LAST CHANCE VIRGINIA OBSOLETE PAPER MONEY BOOK REVISION

The Virginia Numismatic Association needs **your help** in financing the publication of the revised Virginia Obsolete Paper Money. Plans are to have the book ready for distribution at the 1990 Annual Coin Show and Convention. This landmark reference will contain listings for all Virginia Treasury, County, City & Town, Private Scrip and Broken Bank known to date, in one volume. A new numbering system, valuation and rarity scale are complete and layout and typesetting has begun. The production run will consist of 2,000 copies printed with the initial 1,000 being bound. Estimates on material cost are \$12,000 with copies selling for approximately \$40-\$50 each.

The purpose of this letter is to solicit contributions from our membership. These contributions can be made in one of two ways: 1) a donation or 2) a benefactor investment.

- 1. A donation of \$25 or more will entitle giver to have their name published on one of the introductory pages as a member of the **Honor Roll of Supporters for Virginia Obsolete Paper Money Research.**
- 2. A benefactor can make an unsecured, no interest investment in the publication of the <u>Virginia Obsolete Paper Money</u> book in a sum of \$500 and up. Once the sale of the <u>Virginia Obsolete Paper Money</u> has paid outstanding expenses, additional proceeds will be proportioned and distributed back to the benefactors in equitable sums based on the ratio of the gift as a percentage of the benefactor fund. The **intent**, by the VNA, is to reimburse each benefactor for the full amount of their investment only. There is **no guarantee** that the benefactor will ever receive full reimbursement or partial reimbursement in any given time frame. It is also understood that the benefactor shall not hold the Virginia Numismatic Association, Officers, Board of Directors or any individual member responsible for repayment of contribution.

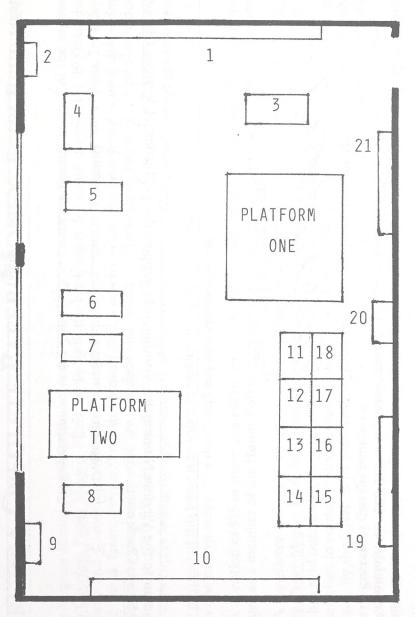
A separate accounting column has been established by the VNA Secretary/Treasurer for the Book Rominion of the Secretary of the Book as consideration for their investment and risk in assuming

A separate accounting column has been established by the VNA Secretary/Treasurer for the Book Contribute to income of expenses from wither VNA activities. Edition to their investment and risk in assuming the profitability of this endeavor.

Please fill out the following form and mail it with your contribution to Keith Littlefield, 3902 Rose Lane, Annandale, Va. 22003. For more information call me at (703) 354-9544.

Thank you for your financial support,

Keith Littlefield, Editor
Virginia Obsolete Paper Money



MONEY MUSEUM FLOOR PLAN

KEY TO MUSEUM FLOOR PLAN

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- 2. Yap Stone
- 3. Colonial & Continental
- 4. Early U.S. Coins
- 5. Early Banknotes
- 6. 19th Century Coins & Notes
- 7. Fed. Reserve System
- 8. 20th Century Coins & Notes
- 9. Grains Balance
- 10. The Making of Currency & Coin
- 11-14. Virginia Currency
- 15-16. Confederate Currency
- 17-18. U.S. Commem. Coins
- 19. Large Denomination Currency
- 20. Gold Bar
- 21. Precious Metals

PLATFORM ONE

- Coin Screw Press
- Strip rolling Machine
- Cannonball Safe
- Franklin Press
- Gold Box

PLATFORM TWO

- Production Balance Beam
- Coin Scoops
- Automatic Scales

MANA CONVENTION AND SHOW

The Middle Atlantic Numismatic Association will hold its thirty ninth annual convention and coin show at the Sheraton Greenbelt in New Carrollton, Maryland, just off of the Washington, D.C. Beltway. The dates are October 18-20. 1991.

The seventy five dealer bourse will feature U.S., foreign and ancient coins, medals, tokens, and currency of all kinds. There will also be many outstanding exhibits. Exhibit awards will be presented at the Awards Breakfast on Sunday.

The auction sale will be conducted by Frank and Laurese Katen in two sessions. The first session will commence at 7 PM on Friday, and the second at 1 PM on Saturday.

An Educational Forum is scheduled for 4 PM on Saturday, and a Young Numismatist Program will also be held on Saturday at a time to be announced.

MANA's third intaglio printed Souvenir Card, printed by the Washington Plate Printers Union, will be on sale at the show.

For information on bourse tables write to: Paul Singleton P.O. Box 894
Annandale, VA 22003

MANA SEEKS LIFE MEMBERS

MANA is seeking to increase the number of its life members. In his President's Letter, MANA President Bob Ross, Ill wrote, "... the life membership pool is the core group from which an organization draws its strength, and I feel it is important to increase ours". MANA's life membership fee was recently increased to \$200, but the new fee did not go into effect until June 30. Even at \$200, a MANA life membership is still cheaper than most comparable regional associations. For information on a MANA life membership, write to the Secretary, Mae L. Clark, 22 Darwin Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912

SPURIOUS OR ILLEGITIMATE TOKEN ALERT

By Bill Williams, NSCA Catalog Committee Chairman

The appearance of spurious tokens on the market is a serious threat to our hobby, and is a violation of the Federal Hobby Protection Act. Those who manufacture, distribute or sell spurious tokens are liable for criminal prosecution. Recently such tokens from several companies appeared in a Mail Bid Sale. Other companies tokens were also sold on a personal basis by the same advertiser. All are described and discussed below for your protection.

- KY983, MARYMOORE/MINES/INC./EXCELSIOR/KY. Rev. Good For/20/in/Merchandise, Rd Br 23mm Sd., The obverse die design is exactly the same as the obverse of the authentic 5, except that all of the book pieces are octagonal. There is no record of the use of a 20 token in the coal industry. A 20 token of J.R. Gibson, a Virginia merchant, was listed in the same auction as the Marymoore 20. Upon comparing the two tokens, it was discovered that the same reverse die was used for both tokens. This combined with the above information leads us to conclude that both tokens are spurious. Two other Marymoore pieces also have appeared. They are a 5 and a 25 Br Oc Sd 21mm and 27mm. The obverse apparently was struck with the same die used for the 20. The reverse, however, reads, "Miners Orders/(denomination)/For Merchandise". A review of Kentucky companies listed in Edkins found only one company with the same reverse. That was KY1163, A Series, Lynn Camp Coal Co., which we believe to be a Wright die. In any event, we have concluded that this 5 and 25 of Marymoore also are spurious.
- Two sets of apparently spurious Virginia merchant tokens also appeared in the same ad; J.R. Gibson & Sons, Jonesville and Pennington Gap, Va., Good For (denomination) In Merchandise Only. They were 10, 20, 50 and 100, all brass and round. The other was Perry, Pippin & Co., Castlewood, Va., Good For (denomination) In Merchandise. They were 5 Br and 5, 10 and 50 aluminum, all round and solid. No further information is available. This is furnished to alert all collectors of Virginia merchant tokens.

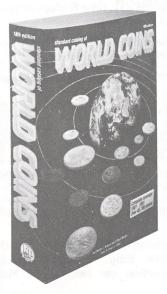
While we cannot state for certain that the above pieces are spurious, the available information seems sufficient to reach that conclusion. We believe that someone has a number of original dies, and is using them to create spurious tokens. The person who ran the Mail Bid Ad. has recalled the above pieces, and is making refunds to those who have returned them. We do not believe that the advertiser knew that the tokens were spurious. The Catalog Committee of NSCA would appreciate any additional information that readers may have, including the identity of the creator of these tokens.

It is unlikely that we can prevent these spurious tokens from getting on the token market. We, however, would like to see some effort made by token collecting organizations to make it mandatory for collectors or dealers who come into contact with publicized spurious tokens to mark them with a permanent marking that would identify them to collectors. We might suggest the word "CTFT". Every effort must be made to protect our hobby.

Thanks to Page Mann for sending in this article.

THE STANDARD CATALOG OF WORLD COINS

Eighteenth Edition, by Chester Krause & Clifford Mishler Edited by Colin R. Bruce II Published by Krause Publications, Iola, WI Paperback, Price: \$39.95 plus \$2.50 for shipping



At 1,968 pages, the new edition of the world collector's standby, Krause's STANDARD CATALOG OF WORLD COINS certainly lives up to its nickname, the "telephone book" of world coins. It provides a complete listing of world legal tender coins from 1801 to the present, and of U.S. issues from 1793 to date. There are well over 100.000 coin listings, arranged alphabetically by country and chronologically by date. Current prices are given in up to four grades of preservation. Each coin type is illustrated, and there are more than 46.000 photos, with occasional enlargements to aid in attribution. Mintage figures are given where available, and listings for gold, silver, platinum and palladium coins give the actual precious metal weight.

The catalog contains an Instant Identifier and Monogram Chart as an aid to identifying coins through key national symbols, such as animals or crests. Also included are useful charts of monograms, numerical systems,

legend abbreviations, etc.

In addition to being packed with basic information, the STANDARD CATALOG also provides a fascinating overview of the state of world coinage today. On the one hand we have the very prosaic issues, all of base metal, intended for circulation, and on the other the amazing array of precious metal legal tender (but non-circulating) commemoratives, churned out by dozens every year by almost any country you care to name, our included.

For those who have anything at all to do with world coins, this book is a must. You can purchase it from your local dealer, or order it directly from the publisher, Krause Publications, 700 East State Street, Iola, WI 54990.

JOHN ESHBACH FOR ANA BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Mr. John R. Esbach of Smoketown, Pa., winner of the 1990 Walt Mason Award for Numismatic Achievement, is a candidate for the ANA Board of Governors. John is a dedicated collector whose services to our hobby over the past 30 years are too numerous to list here. As an ANA Governor he can be relied upon to represent the interests of all collectors, and he richly merits both our support and our votes.

NEWS OF OUR CLUBS

ALEXANDRIA COIN CLUB. Meets at 8:00 PM on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St., Alexandria, Va.

BLUE RIDGE COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 PM on the last Tuesday of each month at 105 North 1st St., in Charlottesville.

KENT COIN CLUB. No news. Please send in the day, time & place of your meetings, plus accounts of your activities for publication.

MONTICELLO COIN CLUB. No news. Please send in the day, time & place of your meetings, plus accounts of your activities for publication.

PIEDMONT COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 PM on the 4th Tuesday of each month at the YMCA in Collinsville, VA.

RICHMOND COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 PM the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Signet Bank Building, 7 North 8th St. in Richmond. At the May meeting the club held its second auction sale of 1991. The June meeting, the club's 603rd, featured a program on Chinese cash.

ROANOKE COIN CLUB. Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Roanoke City Library on Jefferson St.

SALEM COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month in Room B of the Salem Civic Center at 7:30 PM.

SHENANDOAH VALLEY COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month in Fishersville at the Mary Switzer Bldg., Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center, at 7:30 PM. An auction was held at the May meeting.

SOUTHSIDE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION. Meets at 7:30 PM on the 4th Monday of each month in the community room at Cavalier Square Shopping Center in Hopewell.

TIDEWATER COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd Wednesday each month at the Lake Wright Motor Hotel on Northampton Blvd., Virginia Beach.

WASHINGTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY. Meets at the Washington Congregational Church, 3526 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, but does not meet in the months of June, July and August.

WILLIAMSBURG COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 PM on the 1st Friday of each month at Mortimer's Locksmith Shop in Norge, Va. Take Norge exit from I-64. At the May meeting Guy DeWolf presented a program on the Flying Eagle Pattern Cents of 1855. The WCC has just joined VNA. They charge no dues, so they raised the \$10 by passing the hat.

VIRGINIA PENINSULA COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 PM on the 3rd Monday of each month at the War Memorial Museum in Newport News. In May Jim Ross presented a program on Paper Money. Invitations were sent to schools and Boy Scout Troops for a Youth Night in June, and Duane McSmith spoke on "How to Collect and Enjoy Your Coins". The VPCC puts out a nice & newsy newsletter under the editorship of Merv Reynolds.

ANCIENT NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON. Meets in the homes of members. For information, write to W.E. McGovern, P.O. Box 2495, Gaithersburg, MD 20886. In May the club held a member participation discussion on fake ancient coins. The July meeting will be held at the MWNA Coin Show at New Carrolton, MD.

WESLEY E. SAWYER 1925-1991

His many friends will be saddened to learn of the death on May 13, 1991 of VNA member Wes Sawyer of Chester, Va. He is survived by his wife, Lois, his son, John, and daughters Ava and Deborah, to all of whom VNA ex-

tends deepest condolences.

A native of New York City, Wes came to Richmond after serving in the Navy in World War II, and was employed as an industrial machinist until his retirement several years ago. A relative newcomer to coin collecting, he took it up after his retirement, and was an active and enthusiastic member of both VNA and the Richmond Coin Club. Wes joined VNA in June, 1990, and immediately commenced a one man publicity campaign for our 1990 show, which attracted a lot of media attention, and materially increased attendance. In his short time in VNA Wes Sawyer did more for the association than many who have belonged for decades. Wes liked coins, but he loved people, and we are going to miss him.

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SHOW CALENDAR

1-A service of policy of the service	entre entre la
Towson, MD Quality Inn, York Rd.	TOWSON COIN SHOW
Vienna, VA Vienna Community Center	NORTHERN VA COIN CLUB CLUB SHOW
Chicago, IL Rosemont/O'Hare Expo. Ctr.	AMERICAN NUMSIMATIC ASSOCIATION
Towson, MD Quality Inn, York Rd.	TOWSON COIN SHOW
Baltimore, MD Festival Hall	SUBURBAN WASHINGTON COIN SHOW
Richmond, VA Richmond Centre	VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION
Chattanooga, TN Quality Inn, East Ridge	BLUE RIDGE NUMISMATIC ASSOC.
Towson, MD Quality Inn, York Rd.	TOWSON COIN SHOW
Cherry Hill, NJ Hyatt	THIRD INTERNATIONAL PAPER MONEY CONV.
Asheville, NC Civic Center	NORTH CAROLINA NUMISMATIC ASSOC.
New Carrollton, MD Sheraton Greenbelt	MIDDLE ATLANTIC NUMISMATIC ASSOC.
	Quality Inn, York Rd. Vienna, VA Vienna Community Center Chicago, IL Rosemont/O'Hare Expo. Ctr. Towson, MD Quality Inn, York Rd. Baltimore, MD Festival Hall Richmond, VA Richmond Centre Chattanooga, TN Quality Inn, East Ridge Towson, MD Quality Inn, York Rd. Cherry Hill, NJ Hyatt Asheville, NC Civic Center New Carrollton, MD

SHOW CALENDAR POLICY

The Show Calendar lists both club and commercial shows in Virginia and neighboring states, plus ANA and MANA events wherever held. To have your show listed, send a notice to:

The Editor, 712 Westover Rd., Richmond, VA 23220; TEL: 804-358-0525



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WANTED: Cancelled checks dated 5 May 1940, 1946, 1955 and and 1957 to complete birthday set. Ginnie Aldridge, 515 Pinehurst Ave., Colonial Heights, VA 23834

WANTED: Notes with full S.C. UPHAM imprint. Sam Roakes, 281 Rustic Ridge Drive, Kennesaw, GA 30144

WOODEN NICKELS from '86, '87, '88, '89 & '90 VNA conventions are still available. Price 50¢ plus SASE. Order from: VNA, 515 Pinehurst Avenue, Colonial Heights, VA 23834

FOR SALE: Virginia section of Dun & Bradstreet: 1923 \$8.00, 1930 \$10.00, 1940 \$10.00, 1944 \$8.00, & 1955 \$5.00, or will trade for Virginia tokens. Page Mann, PO Box 1684, Williamsburg, VA 23187-1684 (804) 220-2077.

WANTED: Virginia tokens, merchant, coal, transportation and parking, for my personal collection. Describe and price. Elvin B. Miller, PO Box 366, Topping, VA 23169

WANTED for Editor's File: Copies of THE VA. NUMISMATIST for Feb. April, June & Aug., 1965; and all issues of THE HALF PENNY, VNA's first magazine.

Jim Ruehrmund, 712 Westover Rd., Richmond, VA 23220; (804) 358-0525.

Send your ad of 30 words or less (not including name & address) to: Page Mann, PO Box 1684, Williamsburg, VA 23187-1684

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THE YIRGINIA NUMISMATIST





VOLUME 27 NUMBER 5 SEPTEMBER 1991

"We listened to you!"

New, improved "Coin Market" features "slab" coin prices and more circulated grades than any other source!



The hobby's leading value guide, "Coin Market" has been significantly improved once again, to make it an even more vital source of what you need the most – cold, hard, reliable market data that will help you make the right decisions in your coin dealings.

From a more prominent front page position, Bob Wilhite's "Market This Week" column is more accessible than ever, delivering the latest market data to you. The expanded 12page – up from 10 – first-of-the-

month "Coin Market" comes in a convenient, pull-out format (as do the weekly four-pagers) that gives you a wealth of coin values in one source, at one time. It's not spread out over several issues. meaning you'll have the information you need, right at your fingertips. Today, not in a week or two, or three. Plus, you'll now get values for selected certified coins. And you'll find that we listened to you. When you wanted more values for circulated coins, like G Two and Three cent pieces, G Walking Liberty half dollars, VF Barbers, and many AU grades, we added them. In fact, you'll find more values for circulated coins in "Coin Market" than in any other single source.

Combine the newest additions to the "Coin Market" with the News' timely news delivery, in-depth hobby reporting – including the hobby's only full-time Washington, D.C. news bureau – great coin buys from trustworthy advertisers, the largest coin show calendar and FREE classified ads to subscribers every week – a \$260 yearly value – and you can see that Numismatic News has more of "something for everyone" than ever before. Plus, you've got our famous no-hassle refund policy on unmailed issues.

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Advertisers please note: No Ads will be accepted from Minors without their parents consent. All ads must have Numismatic significance. Special or unusual copy requirements will be billed extra. If in doubt, please write for details.

The Virginia Numismatic Association has on file the names and addresses of all Advertisers. Any complaints or requests for information regarding advertisers should be referred to The Virginia Numismatic Association at 712 Westover Road, Richmond, Virginia 23220. The right to edit copy, to require payment in advance, and to decline any advertisement is specifically reserved.

ADVERTISING COPY DEADLINES

The deadline for all copy is the first of the month preceding month of issue (e.g., April 1st for May 10th issue).

THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

VOLUME 27 NUMBER 5 SEPTEMBER 1991

The VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST is the Official Publication of The Virginia Numismatic Association, Inc. and is published six times each year. Articles and items for publication are welcomed and solicited. All six issues are mailed from Hampton, Virginia at the Third Class Postal Rate and cannot be forwarded, so be sure and send us your change of address.

All mail relating to The Virginia Numismatist and Advertising therein should be directed to Jim Ruehrmund, Editor, 712 Westover Road, Richmond, Va. 23220.

Direct all other correspondence about membership, address changes, etc. to the secretarytreasurer, Keith Littlefield, 3902 Rose Lane, Annandale, Virginia 22003.

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Greetings from the top!

As you read this, my final letter as president for the 1989-1991 term I wish all of the officers, board of governors and members of the VNA a prosperous future in the collecting hobby. I have run the gamut of the hobby from collector, dealer, officer of the state club, and back to collector in the past thirty years, and have enjoyed every minute of it. I sincerely believe everyone should enjoy a rewarding hobby such as coins, stamps or other collectibles, for the fun, education and possible profit of it in the future.

I will be leaving an active position with the state club, but do not intend to "retire" from the hobby completely. I have my own small interest in the hobby, and will continue to build on it in the years to come.

I hope everyone enjoyed the recent Convention and Show. I did not take part in this one as a dealer as in last year, and thoroughly enjoyed visiting with all of my friends and dealer acquaintances.

Please accept my thanks for all of the support all of you gave me. I learned quickly that the president does not make an association, it is most definitely the rest of the officers and the members of the association as a whole. My sincere thanks go to Keith Littlefield for his tremendous job as secty/treas, to Jim Ruehrmund as publisher/ghost writer, and to Jim Harvey as my second etc. etc.

Sincerely, Greg Tucker, President

P.S. Shortly after this letter was written back in July, I was sorry to learn that Del Haymaker has been hospitalized following a stroke. All of us in VNA wish her a full and speedy recovery. Friends who wish to send cards should send them to this address:

Mrs. Del Haymaker 115 Gross Point Drive Huddleston, VA 24104

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FACSIMILES AGAIN

The editorial on the brown facsimile notes in the May issue seems to have aroused more interest than I had anticipated. First came a letter from Mr. Sieber, the editor of NUMISMATIC NEWS, who asked permission to reprint it. I gladly complied, with the hope that national circulation might elicit further comments.

Next came a letter from Mr. Arlie Slabaugh of Springfield, Pa. He is a long-time member of VNA who is well known to most of us through his extensive writings, and his frequent attendance at our conventions. Arlie informed me that the facsimiles are produced by the Historical Documents Co., 8 N. Preston St., Philadelphia, Pa. He also sent me one of their advertising flyers, and I've recently obtained a copy of their price list. It runs to five pages, and, in addition to currency, lists a fantastic array of stuff ranging from a 1512 letter of King Ferdinand of Spain to documents pertaining to Pres. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Gen. Douglas MacArthur and the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Arlie says that the item about which he receives the most inquiries is the \$1000 note of the Bank of the United States. Having had his patience tried too many times by folks who insisted that their notes were genuine, he obtained a supply, and adopted the gimmick of offering to sell one to the note holders at one tenth the price they claimed their notes were worth. So far, he's had no takers. Arlie (may his tribe increase) also sent an article for this issue, for which I'm deeply grateful.

Guy Swanson, Curator of the Library at the Museum of the Confederacy

in Richmond, wrote as follows:

Dear Jim,

Congratulations on the fine editorial in the May 1991 issue of THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST. As you know, facsimiles of Confederate currency that do not have the word "COPY" printed on them are a terrible nuisance. To remedy this unfortunate situation, I suggest that collectors and dealers who are in a position to do so should destroy these unlabeled facsimiles at once. While this would be a token effort, it would help institutions such as this one, serious collectors, and responsible dealers preserve the integrity of this fascinating and important avocation.

With warmest regards,

Sincerely, Guy R. Swanson

Guy's approach is certainly direct, but I don't think I can endorse it without reservations. You had better be very sure of your position before you destroy anybody's facsimiles. After all, there's no law prohibiting the ownership of unlabeled facsimiles notes, and destroying someone's property could, in these litigious times, result in one's being sued.

All of the notes produced today are plainly marked "COPY", but even this doesn't completely solve the problem. Just last week I received a letter from a lady in Minnesota, who enclosed a photocopy of a Virginia Colonial note, and asked what it might be worth. I didn't even have to check the serial number; the word "COPY" was right there on the face of the note.

An extreme case of this sort occurred back in 1987, when the Museum of the Confederacy received a letter addressed as follows:

Confederate States State of Richmond Richmond 1

Inside was a brown facsimile of a \$500 Confederate note of 1864. It was of fairly recent origin, for it carried the word "COPY", which had been scratched out with a ball point pen, and the word "REAL" written in. With the bill was the following letter, which is presented verbatim:

June 3rd 1987

Dear Confederate State

I am holding a DEOVINDICE \$500 dollar piece. I talked to a laywer (sic) he told to write to you because you have to send me my \$500.00 cash. I am sending the money but, the laywer (sic) is holding the other Run off of the money, So he told me to write you and give you 30 days from today to send me my money. I need it real Bad.

(Name withheld) Ronda, NC

P.S. 30 days from the date on this Letter which is July 3RD Dead line.

Was this a put on, or was the writer serious? There was no way to tell, but what a glorious opportunity for some heavy sarcasm. I finally decided to play it straight, and sent the following reply:

18 June 1987

Dear:

This is in reply to your letter of June 3, 1987, which was forwarded to me by the Museum of the Confederacy, concerning your \$500 bill. I am returning the bill herewith, as it is recently made copy, and therefore worthless.

Even if your bill were genuine, its redemption is prohibited by Section 4 of the 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, a fact that your lawyer should have known.

Thank you for your interest in the Confederacy.

Sincerely, James C. Ruehrmund

We sent off the reply, and heard nothing more of the matter, but I still think of it occasionally, especially the part about the "laywer".

The last word on currency facsimiles has yet to be said, but I guess we shouldn't fault the Historical Documents Co. too much as the cause of our problems with facsimiles. The real cause is a much more human and universal one, for which a cure will never be found. It brings to mind a saying of Goethe's which Doug Ball is fond of quoting, "With stupidity, even the gods struggle in vain".

VIRGINIA OBSOLETE PAPER MONEY

Edited by Richard H. Jones and Keith E. Littlefield Designed by Frank R. Hannah Published by Virginia Numismatic Association

After several years of painstaking work, VNA's new book, VIRGINIA OB-SOLETE PAPER MONEY is in the final stages of production, and it is anticipated that it will go on sale this fall.

This single 500 page volume is a complete update of the two volume work, THE OBSOLETE PAPER MONEY OF VIRGINIA by the late Charles J. Affleck, published by VNA in 1968 and 1969, and now out of print.

The new book will include all known Virginia obsolete notes from 1770 to 1880, except for Virginia colonial notes and national bank notes, which are omitted, as they are thoroughly covered in other publications. There are numerous new entries of notes discovered during the past twenty years, including material from the archives of the American Bank Note Company.

Separate sections are devoted to the following classes of issues:

Virginia Treasury Notes County and Sheriff Notes City and Town Notes

Private Scrip

Notes of all Virginia Banks (chartered, savings, private, etc.)

Each note is identified by a catalog number, accompanied by a rarity and price guide. Most notes are illustrated approximately ½ size. There are about 2000 illustrations, from new photographs made by the editors. Many entries include brief historical accounts.

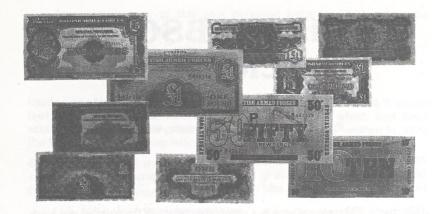
This is a book which collectors, dealers, curators, librarians and all persons interested in the financial history of Virginia will find invaluable. It will be the standard reference on Virginia currency for many years to come.

The new VIRGINIA OBSOLETE PAPER MONEY will be available in two forms:

- Hardbound (ISBN 1-878029-00-2), priced at \$50.00, which includes shipping by UPS.
 - Special unbound copies (ISBN 1-878029-01-0), priced at \$45.00 will also be available. These can be had either plain or drilled for a three ring binder, at the option of the buyer.

Orders for books, and requests for information, including information on dealer discounts, should be sent to:

Virginia Numismatic Association 3902 Rose Lane Annandale, VA 22003



GREAT HOARDS OF PAPER MONEY

by Arlie R. Slabaugh

Every collector of paper money either knows or soon learns that certain kinds are more common than others. What brings this subject to mind is the recent sale by the British government of 17 million obsolete notes of the British Armed Forces, some of which were unavailable, or available only at very high prices. A number of denominations are represented from series issued (or not issued) over a period of years. (Can you imagine the U.S. government disposing of its older Military Payment Certificates in this manner?)

What makes this sale so impressive is the fact that the notes were sold in a single lot to a London dealer. This feat may never be surpassed but there have been other notable hoards of notes, although not sold in one lot. Based on how long it has taken other still common notes to rise appreciably in price, it would appear that it will be another fifty years before the notes of the British Armed Forces that were sold in this hoard become a "worthwhile" investment. That means if you are young, you can buy them cheaply now and hold them. I daresay, though, that if you invested the same amount of money at interest for the same length of time, you would do better as far as common material is concerned. But then I'm a collector, not an investor, so what do I know? And, I should add, what I have written is not intended to discourage the purchase of these particular notes, which are available at an attractive price, since they are certainly a worthwhile addition to any collection of military currency.

Let's consider some other notes that are still reasonably priced (except rare varieties), simply because they were once available in huge quantities. I expect that the earliest would be those of the French Revolution which are now 200 years old. These are the oldest notes that one can still obtain in nice condition for a few dollars. On the other hand, it took only around a hundred years to transform the prices of "broken bank" bills and Confederate notes. As late as 1950, it was possible to buy wholesale lots of mixed broken bank notes in good to uncirculated condition at \$12.50 to \$24 per hundred. A majority of these notes would now bring that much for one or two

specimens. It's the same story with Confederate notes of the common kinds, which are still common, but which are now priced at ten times their prices of the 1940s. The U.S. Treasury still had so many of the Confederate notes left from those that the army had hauled from the South at the end of the Civil War, that Secretary of the Treasury Frank MacVeagh (1909-13) had a quantity of them mailed as gifts to the G.A.R. posts and other worthy groups simply to be rid of them.

Skipping to paper money issued during the present century, surely many collectors of currency can recall when large boxes of German Reichsbank notes were available on dealers' tables at 10¢ each, mostly of the 1920-23 inflation period, but partly of World War I and prewar issues. And, of course, the German notgeld — thousands of these colorful issues were available at 1¢ each until World War II ended shipments to the U.S.A. Closer to home were the issues of the Mexican Revolution of which I had a large quantity during the early 1950s that I sold for 25¢ each. Since then, the hoards of these notes have been largely dispersed. By now more than 50 years have elapsed, and a majority of those who lived at the time of the Mexican Revolution have passed on. If they still had a hoard of notes, their children likely had less interest in holding on to them. The same holds true for German notes of the World War I period. Anyone who assembled a collection of notgeld or other notes at that time is now in their 80s at the very least, even if one formed the collection when six years old.

Notes of Russia, from both the Czars and the Revolution, were once available in large quantities, but one doesn't see as many of these notes now. Chinese notes have also been available in bulk, but it has been an on again, off again, sort of thing due to the disruption of supplies at times, particularly during the period when Mao was head of the government. Other notes include the Japanese invasion money and Philippine guerrilla currency of World War II. Now that 50 years have passed, these notes, too, are no longer as cheap as they once were. Part of the rise in price is due to inflation, but it's also true that after 50 years it is possible to absorb a lot of notes into collections.

There are, of course, a number of other notes that have been available in considerable quantities, at least for short periods, such as those of Greece, Hungary and Indonesia, but I believe I've covered most of the "choke a horse" kinds that dealers sometimes despaired of being able to give away.

The next big paper money "strike"? How about Besatzungsgeld or "occupation money" printed in East Germany and stored away for use when the Warsaw Pact countries invaded Western Europe? As you know, the end of the Cold War ended that possibility. Have these notes been destroyed since West Germany absorbed the eastern sector, or are they still there waiting for an opportune time to offer them for sale? After all, West Germany has spent a great deal of money restoring the economy of East Germany, and the sale of these notes would help cover some of the cost.

ED. NOTE: Arlie Slabaugh is the author of that long-time favorite, CONFEDERATE STATES PAPER MONEY; the new 7th edition is available from Krause Publications at \$9.95. Many thanks, Arlie, for this article.

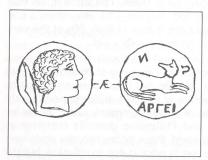
WATCH DOGS

by Sophie S. Ruehrmund

I was just lying around trying to keep cool in this devilishly hot weather when I heard Jim mention that he needed another article for the magazine. I told him that I'd be glad to oblige, since it's been sixteen months since my last article appeared, and the readers should have gotten over it by now.

Those who haven't read my earlier articles and are unfamiliar with my work may wonder how a schnauzer, and a tiny one at that, can get away with doing numismatic articles for publication. Well, it so happens that I have quite a lot of drag with the editor of this publication, but, aside from that, if First Dog, Millie Bush, can do an entire book, and get paid real money for it, then I'm certainly entitled to do an occasional short article. When it comes to numismatics, my experience is extensive; as Jim's dog, I've been closely associated with the subject for 96% of my entire life. I'll add, with all due modesty, that I've been a patron of the VNA Convention for the past two years. How many of you humans can say the same?

For a long time I've hoped to do an article about dogs on coins, but a



Coin of Argos Amphilochicum

diligent search for material has turned up very little. Except for a few ancient coins and the modern issues of Ireland, coins depicting dogs are very scarce indeed. I was a bit irked to find so many lions on coins, and I think that it's high time the coin designers started giving us dogs our due. We're every bit as noble as lions, a whole heap smarter, and loyal to boot. We've been the friends and servants of mankind since before the dawn of history, but have you ever heard of a seeing

eye lion or a watch lion? From what I've heard about lions, they'd rather eat you than not.

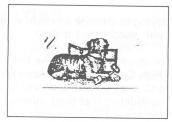
It is in the role of watchdog that we really stand out. Just this morning, at about 6 am, I let Jim and Elsie know that a stranger was coming up our front walk. It turned out to be the newspaper man and not a burglar, but I was proud to have done my duty.

It is also in the role of watchdog that we've achieved a modest degree of numismatic recognition. One of the ancient coins we discovered is a little 18 mm bronze piece from the city of Argos Amphilochicum in northwestern Greece. It was issued between 350 and 270 B.C., and has a head of Hermes on the obverse, while the reverse depicts a reclining dog with his head turned back. We couldn't find a photograph, so we've used a rather crude drawing which I hope is clear enough to show you what it looks like. The Greek inscription reads "OF ARGOS".

The dog is wearing a collar, and is, I strongly suspect, Argus, the dog of Odysseus in the Odyssey, about whom I wrote in my last article. Argus must have been a watchdog, for, as you may remember from Greek mythology, the original Argus was a giant with a hundred eyes. Hera, queen of the gods, assigned him to watch lo, a young lady with whom her husband, Zeus, was



Lynchburg, Va.



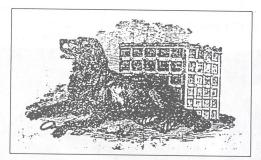
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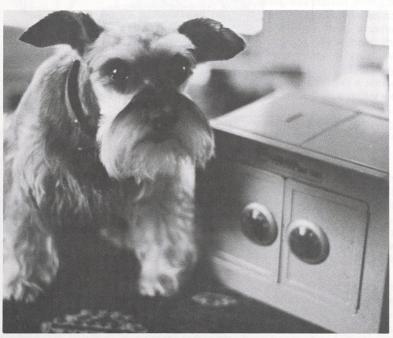


Wheeling, Va.

trying to arrange an affair, so the name Argus has come to be synonymous with watchman (or dog).

Nearly twenty one centuries passed before watchdogs appeared again on money, not on coins, but on paper money, and in a big way, too. In the 19th Century lots of banks issued banknotes, and towns, cities, counties, and even private individuals issued scrip. All of them wanted to inspire confidence that their money was good (it often wasn't), so they placed on the notes a design symbolizing security, a watchdog guarding a safe. This design was also used on checks. I've illustrated one note and a number of vignettes, mostly from Virginia, as a small sample of the designs used. The dog is usually shown lying beside the safe with his paw resting on the key; combination lock safes didn't come in until later. The safe is always closed, so there's no way to tell how much money is in it, if any. Many breeds of dogs are represented, but no schnauzers. Our breed had not yet been developed, then, so I've included a picture of myself in an updated version of the traditional pose, which note designers are encouraged to copy.

When private money ceased to be issued the watchdog and safe design fell into disuse, a great pity. I understand that design revisions for the U.S. currency are being considered, and I strongly advocate that any new designs include a small watchdog and safe. A different one could be used on each denomination, which would both inspire confidence, and serve to enliven the otherwise dull designs. Revival of this great old tradition would, I'm sure, please dogs everywhere, not to mention collectors.



Sophie guards a safe

NEWS OF OUR CLUBS

ALEXANDRIA COIN CLUB. Meets at 8:00 PM on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St., Alexandria, Va.

BLUE RIDGE COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 PM on the last Tuesday of each month at 105 North 1st St., in Charlottesville.

KENT COIN CLUB. No news. Please send in the day, time & place of your meetings, plus accounts of your activities for publication.

MONTICELLO COIN CLUB. No news. Please send in the day, time & place of your meetings, plus accounts of your activities for publication.

PIEDMONT COIN CLUB. Meets at $7:00\ PM$ on the 4th Tuesday of each month at the YMCA in Collinsville, VA.

RICHMOND COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 PM the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Signet Bank Building, 7 North 8th St. in Richmond. At the May meeting the club held its second auction sale of 1991. The July meeting, Jim Ruehrmund gave a program on "Lucy Pickens, the Lady on the Confederate Notes".

ROANOKE COIN CLUB. Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Roanoke City Library on Jefferson St. In July the club held a most enjoyable show at the Roanoke Civic Center, at which they hosted the VNA board meeting.

SALEM COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month in Room B of the Salem Civic Center at 7:30 PM.

SHENANDOAH VALLEY COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month in Fishersville at the Mary Switzer Bldg., Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center, at 7:30 PM. An auction was held at the May meeting.

SOUTHSIDE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION. Meets at 7:30 PM on the 4th Monday of each month in the community room at Cavalier Square Shopping Center in Hopewell.

TIDEWATER COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd Wednesday each month at the Lake Wright Motor Hotel on Northampton Blvd., Virginia Beach.

WASHINGTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY. Meets at the Washington Congregational Church, 3526 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, but does not meet in the months of June, July and August.

WILLIAMSBURG COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 PM on the 1st Friday of each month at Mortimer's Locksmith Shop in Norge, Va. Take Norge exit from I-64. At the July meeting Pres. Duane McSmith spoke on the requirements for the Boy Scout merit badge for coin collecting.

VIRGINIA PENINSULA COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 PM on the 3rd Monday of each month at the War Memorial Museum in Newport News. In May Jim Ross presented a program on Paper Money. Invitations were sent to schools and Boy Scout Troops for a Youth Night in June, and Duane McSmith spoke on "How to Collect and Enjoy Your Coins".

ANCIENT NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON. Meets in the homes of members. For information, write to W.E. McGovern, P.O. Box 2495, Gaithersburg, MD 20886.

MANA CONVENTION AND SHOW

The Middle Atlantic Numismatic Association will hold its thirty ninth annual convention and coin show at the Sheraton Greenbelt in New Carrollton, Maryland, just off of the Washington, D.C. Beltway. The dates are October 18-20, 1991.

The seventy five dealer bourse will feature U.S., foreign and ancient coins, medals, tokens, and currency of all kinds. There will also be many outstanding exhibits. Exhibit awards will be presented at the Awards Breakfast on Sunday.

An auction sale will be conducted by Frank and Laurese Katen in two sessions, the first will commence at 7 PM on Friday, and the second at 1 PM on Saturday.

An Educational Forum will be held at 4 PM on Saturday, and a Young Numismatist Program will also be held on Saturday at a time to be announced.

MANA's third intaglio printed Souvenir Card, printed by the Washington Plate Printers Union, will be on sale at the show.

For information on bourse tables write to:

Paul Singleton, P.O. Box 894, Annandale, VA 22003

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SHOW CALENDAR

Sept. 20-22	Richmond, VA Richmond Centre	VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION
Sept. 27-29	Chattanooga, TN Quality Inn, East Ridge	BLUE RIDGE NUMISMATIC ASSOC.
Sept. 29	Towson, MD Quality Inn, York Rd.	TOWSON COIN SHOW
Sept. 27-29	Cherry Hill, NJ Hyatt	THIRD INTERNATIONAL PAPER MONEY CONV.
Oct. 11-13	Asheville, NC Civic Center	NORTH CAROLINA NUMISMATIC ASSOC.
Oct. 18-20	New Carrollton, MD Sheraton Greenbelt	MIDDLE ATLANTIC NUMISMATIC ASSOC.
Oct. 24-27	Greenville, SC	SOUTH CAROLINA NUMISMATIC ASSOC.
Nov. 9-10	LaVale, MD LaVale Fire Hall	WESTERN MARYLAND COIN CLUB
Nov. 24	Towson, MD Quality Inn, York Rd.	TOWSON COIN SHOW
Dec. 7-8	Fayetteville, NC Days Inn, Bragg Blvd.	CAPE FEAR COIN CLUB
Dec. 15	Towson, MD Quality Inn, York Rd.	TOWSON COIN SHOW

SHOW CALENDAR POLICY

The Show Calendar lists both club and commercial shows in Virginia and neighboring states, plus ANA and MANA events wherever held. To have your show listed, send a notice to:

The Editor, 712 Westover Rd., Richmond, VA 23220; TEL: 804-358-0525



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WANTED: Cancelled checks dated 5 May 1940, 1946, 1955 and 1957 to complete birthday set. Ginnie Aldridge, 515 Pinehurst Ave., Colonial Heights, VA 23834

WANTED: Notes with full S.C. UPHAM imprint. Sam Roakes, 281 Rustic Ridge Drive, Kennesaw, GA 30144

WOODEN NICKELS from '86, '87, '88, '89 & '90 VNA conventions are still available. Price 50¢ plus SASE. Order from: VNA, 515 Pinehurst Avenue, Colonial Heights, VA 23834

FOR SALE: Virginia section of Dun & Bradstreet: 1923 \$8.00, 1930 \$10.00, 1940 \$10.00, 1944 \$8.00, & 1955 \$5.00, or will trade for Virginia tokens. Page Mann, PO Box 1684, Williamsburg, VA 23187-1684 (804) 220-2077.

WANTED: Virginia tokens, merchant, coal, transportation and parking, for my personal collection. Describe and price. Elvin B. Miller, PO Box 366, Topping, VA 23169

WANTED for Editor's File: Copies of THE VA. NUMISMATIST for Feb. April, June & Aug., 1965; and all issues of THE HALF PENNY, VNA's first magazine.

Jim Ruehrmund, 712 Westover Rd., Richmond, VA 23220; (804) 358-0525.

Marie Committee of the Committee of the

Send your ad of 30 words or less (not including name & address) to: Page Mann, PO Box 1684, Williamsburg, VA 23187-1684

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The following individuals will become members of the Virginia Numismatic Association 20 days after the mailing of this notice unless objections are received, in which case the VNA Board will decide.

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Jim Ruehrmund, Editor
712 Westover Road, Richmond, Virginia 23220

Address all official mail of the Virginia Numismatic Association to:
Keith Littlefield, Secretary-Treasurer
3902 Rose Lane, Annandale, Virginia 22003

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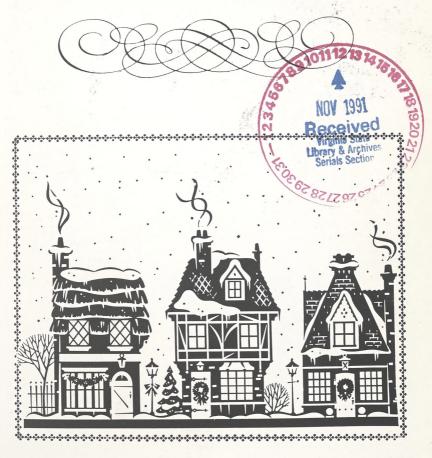
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THE YIRGINIA NUMISMATIST



VOLUME 27 NUMBER 6 NOVEMBER 1991

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THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

VOLUME 27 NUMBER 6 NOVEMBER 1991

The VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST is the Official Publication of The Virginia Numismatic Association, Inc. and is published six times each year. Articles and items for publication are welcomed and solicited. All six issues are mailed from Hampton, Virginia at the Third Class Postal Rate and cannot be forwarded, so be sure and send us your change of address.

All mail relating to The Virginia Numismatist and Advertising therein should be directed to Jim Ruehrmund, Editor, 712 Westover Road, Richmond, Va. 23220.

Direct all other correspondence about membership, address changes, etc. to the secretary-treasurer, Keith Littlefield, 3902 Rose Lane, Annandale, Virginia 22003.

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER



The 33rd Annual VNA Convention and Coin Show concluded on September 22, 1991, and I would like to thank the members, dealers and visitors for their successful endeavors on behalf of the VNA.

We meet annually to promote numismatics at the state level; to exhibit, to learn, to renew our enthusiasm for the hobby.

Let us concentrate, during the next year, on the need to increase our activity in seeking new members, supporting young numismatists,

and in advancing learning by offering seminars on subjects related to our hobby. This will require some planning and effort on our parts, (i.e. — the seminars would be in conjunction with the 1992 Convention, increasing membership might require a contest among present members, etc.)

We have in the VNA the expertise and zeal to tackle the forementioned opportunities. I would like to hear from the membership on these subjects or any other concerns. Write me at PO Box 36167, Richmond, VA 23232.

Sincerely, Jim Harvey, President

• DUES ARE DUE • DUES ARE DUE •

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PLEASE SEND TO: Keith Littlefield, Sec.-Treas. 3902 Rose Lane, Annandale, Virginia 22003

VNA's 33rd ANNUAL CONVENTION

Perhaps it is a sign that the recession is still not over, for the numbers of both dealers and visitors at this year's show were both down from last year. We had 35 dealers present, while 420 visitors registered at the door. There was plenty of nice material to be seen, and quite a lot of it found new owners. VNA is indebted to WRVA Radio's Alden Aaroe, and to columnist Jimmy Packard for their support in publicizing the show. We also thank the two Marges, Beard and Hannah, who managed the registration desk with their usual efficiently, and Ginnie Aldridge, Joe Bush, Ben Duncan, Bob Brennan, Ted and Evie Tarr and the other members of the Richmond Coin Club who assisted them.

We had a grand mix of visitors, ranging from folks who were attending their very first show to VNA veterans who haven't missed one for decades. It was great to see so many old friends like Steve Taylor, Larry Chavis and Jimmy Johnson. Howard Spain came up from Waverly, slowed down only slightly by his recent hip joint operation. We missed Dell and Ray Haymaker, who couldn't come this year as Dell has not fully recovered from her stroke. She's making a good recovery, and we are confident that they'll be back again in 1992.

Among the new friends attending their first show were Jim Talbert and his daughter, Karen, of Richmond, who were searching for, and finding Confederate notes signed by William Nott, an ancestor of Karen's.

Burnett Anderson of Krause Publications was also on hand with free samples of Krause literature, all of which were snapped up.

Les Winners, who once again made the long trip from Mississippi to be with us, gave us another grand performance as Master of Ceremonies at the banquet Saturday evening, and the roast beef dinner served by the Day's Inn seemed to meet with everyone's approval. Following dinner, after the door prizes, donated by Don Apte, Steve Bennett, Lou Doucet, Len Harsel, the O'Briens and Jerry Schmidt were distributed the following exhibit awards were presented:

OUTSTANDING AWARDS

Ben Duncan. Presidential Pocket Change Norma Tucker. A Coin Garden

BEST OF SHOW

Bob New. The Waitangi Treaty and Crown

CHARLES AFFLECK AWARD

Jim Ruehrmund. Doggone Safe Money

There were also two non-competitive exhibits which deserve recognition:

Richard Jones. A Ludwig Source

Jim Ruehrmund. Let's See the Color of Your Money

Following the exhibit awards, Len Harsel presented the Walt Mason Award for numismatic achievement, to Earl F. Blaisdell of Vienna, Va. The award recognizes Earl's many contributions to our hobby over the past twenty years.

On completion of the awards, the following newly elected VNA officers were sworn in by ANA Past President Steve Taylor: President, James M. Harvey, Jr.; 1st Vice Pres. Richard B. Coltrane; 2nd Vice Pres. Stephen Bennett, Ill; Sec.-Treas. Keith Littlefield; and Directors Louis E. Doucet, Ray-

mond G. Haymaker, Duane McSmith, W. Page Mann and Mervyn H.

Reynolds.

Les Winners introduced our guest speaker, Dr. Dick Doty, Curator of World Paper Money at the Smithsonian Institution, who gave us a World Class talk on Colonial Era silversmiths who exercised their engraving

talents in preparing plates for paper money.

After dinner the Rag Pickers held their annual get together with some fourteen paper money devotees present. Unfortunately, Grover Criswell couldn't be with us this year, but Doug Ball, Corbett Davis, Dick and Margaret Doty, Len Harsel, Richard Jones, Keith Littlefield, Claud and Judith Murphy and other spent a couple of pleasant hours in a discussion, led by Doug B., of the problems and accomplishments of various printers of Confederate and Southern State currency.

Plans are already well advanced for the 1992 Convention and Show, which will be held September 17-20, 1992 at the Westpark Hotel, Tysons

Corner in McLean, Virginia. Do plan to be there.



The head table



Registration desk



Frank & Richard discuss the book



New officers are sworn in



Meeting of the Board



Jimmy Beard & Greg Tucker



A gift for our speaker



Earl Blaisdell receives the Walt Mason Award



Charlie Hoskins



Pres. Jim addresses the meeting



Krause's own Burnett Anderson



Merv Reynolds



Dave Schenkman & friends



Les Winners & Steve Taylor



Claud & Judith Murphy



At the Banquet

EARL BLAISDELL RECEIVES THE 1991 WALT MASON AWARD



All of Earl F. Blaisdell's many friends will applaud his selection as recipient of the 1991 Walt L. Mason Award for numismatic achievement. The award, presented to him at the VNA annual banquet recognizes his contributions to the hobby over a period of more than twenty years.

Earl, a well known coin dealer of Falls Church, Va.,

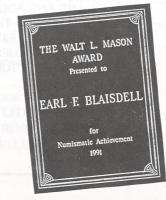
is especially noted both as a show promoter, and as the originator of the first, and perhaps the only, support service to coin shows in the mid-Atlantic area. He has for years sponsored the popular Vienna, Va. Coin and Stamp Show, which has won high praise from the numismatic community, and was named the outstanding show of its size for 1990 by COIN WORLD.

On the local level, Earl has been active in the Washington, D.C. area through the operation of two coin stores and his support of most of the shows held in the region during the past 20 years. After closing his stores, he worked for several prominent dealers, using his expertise to build their customer base through service to individual collectors. Earl Blaisdell has earned the respect and admiration of both collectors and dealers through his genial personality, wit, enthusiasm, and his willingness to share his knowledge.

Criteria for the award, established in 1988 to honor the memory of Walter L. Mason, Jr., reflecting the qualities of Walt himself, include open handed help to collectors of all ages and sharing information on the varied pleasures of the numismatic hobby.

Nominations for the 1992 award will be accepted from Jan. 1 through

July 1, 1992. Anyone may make a nomination, but nominees must be numismatically active in the mid-Atlantic area of Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia and the Carolinas. For additional information, a copy of the award criteria, or to contribute support, contact Len Harsel, PO Box 2301, Springfield, VA 22152.



VNA MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

QUESTIONNAIRE

At the VNA board meeting held 27 July 1991 it was decided that a membership directory might allow our members to meet or correspond with other members who have similar collecting interests. It has always been VNA's policy to hold our membership roll confidential, and never to provide it to anyone, regardless of circumstances. THIS POLICY WILL NOT CHANGE. The full membership roll will continue to be maintained by the Secretary-Treasurer, and will not be released to anyone for any reason. The Membership Directory is a separate and distinct activity.

If you are interested in participating in a membership directory, please detach this questionnaire from the magazine, fill it out, and return it to the Secretary-Treasurer by 1 May 1992. The following rules will apply:

- 1. Only VNA members will receive a directory.
- 2. Only members and member clubs volunteering information will be published.

YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS WILL NOT
BE PUBLISHED IN THE DIRECTORY
UNLESS YOU FILL OUT THE
FOLLOWING QUESTIONNAIRE
AND RETURN IT.

QUESTIONNAIRE

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Return your completed form to:

KEITH LITTLEFIELD

3902 ROSE LANE

ANNANDALE, VA 22003

WHAT IS IT?

The item pictured below poses a real mystery. Its owner would like to learn of its origin, and whether or not it has any historical or monetary value. Since the editor was unable to shed any light on these matters, the following account is published with the hope that some of our readers may have infor-

mation on the subject.

As can be seen from the illustration, the design is that of a Confederate \$1 treasury note of the Feb. 17, 1864 issue (Cr. Type 71), with the portrait of a young girl substituted for that of Sen. C.C. Clay. The piece measures $11\frac{1}{4}$ x $4\frac{\pi}{6}$ inches, which is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ times the size of the \$1 note, and it has the same design printed on both sides, in black on one side, and in green on the other. Judging from the girl's costume, it was made sometime between the 1880's and the early 1900's. It was found in Draper, Va. many years ago, and has been passed down through the Chinault family for about fifty years.

Anyone having information on the identity of the young woman, the occasion for which is was issued, or the monetary value of the piece is requested to send it to either the editor or to the document's owner: Mrs. Kay W.

Chinault, Rt. 1, Box 304-C, Pulaski, VA 24301.



THEY'VE DONE IT AGAIN!

Great Day in the Morning! I couldn't imagine anything that could surpass those Japanese gold business cards reported in the January issue, but something has. A recent issue of the Gold Institute's GOLD NEWS BRIEFS announced the release of what has to be the ultimate in numismatic? kitsch: the world's very first gold baseball card. The initial card, featuring an imaginary player, "Ken Katcher", and containing one gram of 999.9 pure gold has gone on sale. The cards will retail for \$65 each (that's \$2021.73 per troy ounce), and no bubble gum is included. Thirty cards featuring real players are to be issued annually in four sports: baseball, football, hockey and basketball. The promoters hope that the cards will appeal to both sports card collectors and gold accumlators, but, considering the price, reaching the latter group is going to require a lot of varsity league selling.

I can't imagine anything that could top this, but, beyond any doubt,

something will, and right soon, too.

NEWS OF OUR CLUBS

ALEXANDRIA COIN CLUB. Meets at 8:00 PM on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St., Alexandria, Va. The Sept. meeting featured a program on the U.S. Mint.

BLUE RIDGE COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 PM on the last Tuesday of each month at 105 North 1st St., in Charlottesville. In July watched a video on Grading U.S. Coins, and held an auction sale.

KENT COIN CLUB. No news. Please send in the day, time & place of your meetings, plus accounts of your activities for publication.

MONTICELLO COIN CLUB. No news. Please send in the day, time & place of your meetings, plus accounts of your activities for publication.

PIEDMONT COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 PM on the 4th Tuesday of each month at the YMCA in Collinsville, VA.

RICHMOND COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 PM the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Signet Bank Building, 7 North 8th St. in Richmond. In October Dave Armstrong spoke on Coins of Roman Women.

ROANOKE VALLEY COIN CLUB. Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Roanoke City Library on Jefferson St.

SALEM COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month in Room B of the Salem Civic Center at 7:30 PM. The club held its annual fall show Nov. 8-9 at the American Legion Building in Salem.

SHENANDOAH VALLEY COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month in Fishersville at the Mary Switzer Bldg., Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center, at 7:30 PM. An auction was held at the May meeting.

SOUTHSIDE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION. Meets at 7:30 PM on the 4th Monday of each month in the community room at Cavalier Square Shopping Center in Hopewell.

TIDEWATER COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd Wednesday each month at the Lake Wright Motor Hotel on Northampton Blvd., Virginia Beach.

WASHINGTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY. Meets at the Washington Congregational Church, 3526 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, but does not meet in the months of June, July and August.

WILLIAMSBURG COIN CLUB. Meeting date has been changed from the 1st to the 2nd Friday of each month. Meeting time is still 7:00 PM, and place is Mortimer's Locksmith Shop in Norge, Va. Take Norge exit from I-64.

VIRGINIA PENINSULA COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 PM on the 3rd Monday of each month at the War Memorial Museum in Newport News. At the September meeting Gerard Chambers spoke on U.S. Fractional Currency, and displayed examples of each type.

ANCIENT NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON. Meets in the homes of members. For information, write to W.E. McGovern, P.O. Box 2495, Gaithersburg, MD 20886.

VIRGINIA OBSOLETE PAPER MONEY

Edited by Richard H. Jones and Keith E. Littlefield Designed by Frank R. Hannah Published by Virginia Numismatic Association

After several years of painstaking work, VNA's new book, VIRGINIA OB-SOLETE PAPER MONEY is in the final stages of production, and it is scheduled to go on sale this fall.

This single 500 page volume is a complete update of the two volume work, THE OBSOLETE PAPER MONEY OF VIRGINIA by the late Charles J. Affleck, published by VNA in 1968 and 1969, and now out of print.

The new book will include all known Virginia obsolete notes from 1770 to 1880, except for Virginia colonial notes and national bank notes, which are omitted, as they are thoroughly covered in other publications. There are numerous new entries of items discovered over the past twenty years, including material from the American Bank Note Company Archives.

Separate sections are devoted to the following classes of issues:

Virginia Treasury Notes City and Town Notes

County and Sheriff Notes Private Scrip

Notes of all Virginia Banks (chartered, savings, private, etc.)

Each note is identified by a catalog number, accompanied by a rarity and price guide. There are about 2000 half size illustrations, and many entries include brief historical accounts.

This is a book which collectors, dealers, curators, librarians and all persons interested in the financial history of Virginia will find invaluable. It will be the standard reference on Virginia currency for many years to come.

The new VIRGINIA OBSOLETE PAPER MONEY will be available in two forms:

- Hardbound (ISBN 1-878029-00-2), priced at \$50.00, which includes shipping by UPS.
- Special unbound copies (ISBN 1-878029-01-0), priced at \$45.00 will also be available. These can be had either plain or drilled for a three ring binder, at the option of the buyer.

A dealer discount of 40% is given on orders for three or more books.

Orders for books, and requests for information should be sent to:

Virginia Numismatic Association 3902 Rose Lane Annandale, VA 22003

Make checks payable to: VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

SHOW CALENDAR

Nov. 24	Towson, MD Quality Inn, York Rd.	TOWSON COIN SHOW
Nov. 30- Dec. 1	Salisbury, NC Salisbury Civic Center	ROWAN CO. COIN CLUB
Dec. 7-8	Fayetteville, NC Days Inn, Bragg Blvd.	CAPE FEAR COIN CLUB
Dec. 13- 15	New Carrollton, MD Sheraton Hotel	CRAB STATE COIN AND STAMP EXPO.
Dec. 15	Towson, MD Quality Inn, York Rd.	TOWSON COIN SHOW
Jan. 25-26 '92	Vienna, VA Vienna Community Center	NORTHERN VA COIN CLUB SHOW
Feb. 14-16	Charlotte, NC Merchandise Mart	CHARLOTTE COIN CLUB
Mar. 20-22	Chattanooga, TN Quality Inn	TENNESSEE STATE NUMISMATIC SOCIETY
Apr. 25-26	Vienna, VA Vienna Community Center	NORTHERN VA COIN CLUB SHOW

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WANTED: Encased coins from all states. Describe and price. Ginnie Aldridge; 515 Pinehurst Ave., Colonial Heights, VA 23834

WANTED: Notes with full S.C. UPHAM imprint. Sam Roakes, 281 Rustic Ridge Drive, Kennesaw, GA 30144

WOODEN NICKELS from '86, '87, '88, '89 & '90 VNA conventions are still available. Price 50¢ plus SASE. Order from: VNA, 515 Pinehurst Avenue, Colonial Heights, VA 23834

FOR SALE: Virginia section of Dun & Bradstreet: 1923 \$8.00, 1930 \$10.00, 1940 \$10.00, 1944 \$8.00, & 1955 \$5.00, or will trade for Virginia tokens. Page Mann, PO Box 1684, Williamsburg, VA 23187-1684 (804) 220-2077.

WANTED: Virginia tokens, merchant, coal, transportation and parking, for my personal collection. Describe and price. Elvin B. Miller, PO Box 366, Topping, VA 23169

WANTED : B.P.O.E. (Elks) & I.B.P.O.E.W. exonumia. Will buy or trade. J.M. Boswell, P.O. Box 428, Gambrills, MD 21054-0428

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Address all official mail of the Virginia Numismatic Association to:
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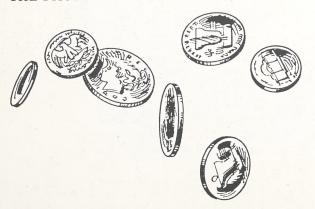




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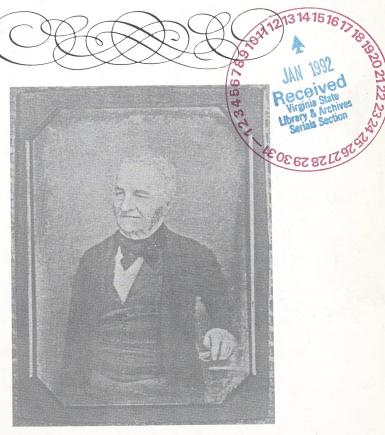
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VOLUME 28 NUMBER 1 JANUARY 1992

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER



The holidays are just around the corner, another year is rapidly coming to a close, a year which has not been a great one for many in the numismatic community. The economy is struggling to extract itself from the throes of a recession, and there is a reluctance to purchase anything other than the bare essentials.

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However, on the brighter side, it appears the worst is over, and now is the time take advantage of some of the lowest prices in many years in our hobby. "Buy low and sell high", and if you can't do that successfully you are a collector, like me.

The coming year will be an exciting one, the new book, VIRGINIA OBSOLETE PAPER MONEY, will be available, and a new Virginia token book by David Schenkman is in the works. The 1992 VNA Convention and Show will be held at Tyson's Corner in Northern Virginia, and we are considering several sites for 1993, including Colonial Williamsburg.

This issue of THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST will utilize a new process, photo ready copy, which will present the editor with a few problems, but will be much more cost effective than the old process.

I wish you Happy Holidays and a joyous New Year. I hope to see you at the various shows during the coming year.

Sincerely, Jim Harvey President

* IT'S DUES TIME AGAIN *

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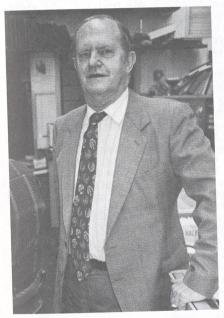
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MEET OUR ADVERTISERS. 1

REED S. WALTON

This is the first of a series of profiles of the dealers whose advertisements appear in THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST. It is intended both to acquaint our members with this interesting group of people, and to express VNA's gratitude for their valued support. Without them this magazine would scarcely be possible, as the revenue from advertising pays for a substantial portion of the cost of publication.

Reed Walton, the longest established coin dealer in Tidewater Virginia, was chosen as the subject of the first of these profiles since he is also one of our two advertisers of longest standing. He was a collector before he became a dealer, and is one of the four remaining charter members of VNA (No.32); he is Life Member No. 6. Reed started dealing in coins in 1961, and made it his full time profession in 1964.



Hampton, Virginia is Reed's home town, and his shop is there at 2211 West Mercury Boulevard, in the Mercury Plaza Mall. He has been at this location since 1968, which is probably a duration record among Virginia dealers. Dealing primarily in U.S. coins and currency, he is noted for catering to the needs of collectors, and for helping young people to start and build their collections.

Reed's history as a VNA advertiser goes back a long way. His first ad in this magazine appeared in the July issue of 1974, and moved to the outside of the back cover in November of that year. It has occupied that spot continuously since the beginning of 1977. His ad has also appeared on the outside of the back cover of the VNA convention program for the same length of time, all of which represents an impressive level of long term support for VNA.

Reed's support of VNA hasn't stopped at advertising. He was one of the donors of material for the auction sale at the 1968 VNA Convention which raised the funds to publish Charlie Affleck's book, THE OBSOLETE PAPER MONEY OF VIRGINIA. He was also one of the benefactors who advanced money to publish the new book, VIRGINIA OBSOLETE PAPER MONEY.

The foregoing, which indicates that we are dealing here with an allaround good guy, didn't come from Reed himself, a very modest gentleman not given to tooting his own horn. His many friends were, however, glad to do just that, and it was they who supplied the information.

Everyone in Tidewater Virginia knows where Reed's shop is, but if you're a stranger to the area, and happen to be passing through Hampton on I-64 take the W. Mercury Blvd. exit, and pay him a visit.

THE SHARP SHINS AND SHIN PLASTER CURRENCY

by Samuel Mordecai

Ed. Note. This article is taken from Chapter XXVII of the 1860 edition of Samuel Mordecai's charming book, RICHMOND IN BY-GONE DAYS.

In the beginning of the present century, and for some years of the last, after State and Continental paper money had disappeared from circulation, under a depreciation so ridiculous, as to render a dollar's worth more than one's pockets could contain, there existed in Virginia, and in some other States, a currency, that from its triangular shape and acute angles, was called sharp-shins.

In those days a bank note was a rare, though not a despised currency. Virginia, under the guidance of her Revolutionary Apostles, held banks in abhorrence, and having seen that baseless paper-money was a base currency, she would tolerate no other than gold and silver. As Alexandria was about to leave the pale of the Old Dominion, she yielded to her urgent entreaties, and granted to her a taste of the forbidden fruit, which so far from causing her downfall, tended greatly to her prosperity; but as there may be too much of a good thing, she was afterwards ruined, or nearly so, by the introduction of six or eight uncharted banks.

It was some convenience to merchants travelling north to obtain money in a more portable form than gold and silver, especially as the modes of conveyance were either by a stage-wagon twice or thrice a week, or on horse-back with saddle-bags, or in a stick-chair, (now a



Bust of Samuel Mordecai

sulky), or in a coasting schooner. Few merchants however then visited northern cities to obtain supplies of goods. The English, Scotch and Irish merchants or agents established here, imported from London, Bristol, Glasgow, Liverpool and Dublin, where their principals resided, every sort of goods, and all articles from a nail to a clock, and in those days a clock was something to have. I do not include West India products; these were obtained at Norfolk, then one of the largest markets in the Union for the importation of rum, sugar, coffee, molasses, &c. The few store-keepers (as they were called) who bought their goods at the North were looked upon as little above the grade of pedlers.

The Bank of Alexandria, that of Baltimore, the old "Bank of North America", (the patriarch of American banks, and worthy exemplar

for them), the first "Bank of the United States", and two or three New York banks, furnished all the bank notes which then circulated in our towns, and they were readily taken by the merchants; but the whole amount was small. The modern contrivance of forcing bank notes into circulation as far as possible from their place of redemption, had not then been adopted.

I have deviated somewhat from my subject, and after a few prefatory remarks will enter upon it.

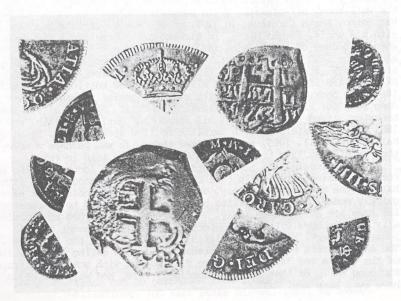
The great mass of the currency was Spanish dollars, some ugly

French crowns, little or no English silver, but a large quantity of gold, in Spanish, Portuguese, French and English coins; also a portion of Cob gold and silver in irregular uncoined pieces, with some unintelligible figures and letters stamped on them, to denote perhaps the weight, fineness and assayer's initials. All gold coins passed by weight, and as the several nations had different standards of fineness, each of these had to be weighed separately, and the value to be calculated by printed tables. To effect this, each merchant and trader was provided with the requisite apparatus of scales, weights and tables of rates; indeed many persons carried a case of pocket scales, &c., and it was also necessary to have some skill in discriminating between genuine and base coins, as many counterfeits were made.

It was usually no small trouble to receive and pay a few thousand dollars, and in my boyhood, I have frequently staggered along the street with my arm bruised under the weight of a heavy bag of dollars, which I hugged most hatefully. Then came the counting and re-counting and examining for counterfeits, and weighing and calculating the value of various pieces of gold. Money was really a misery - at least to me - for no more stuck to my fingers than I could wash off after counting.

I well remember the day when relief came. When the Bank of Virginia was opened for deposits, in the basement of the Capitol in 1804, and I followed a stout negro wheeling \$10,000 to the vaults.

And now for the Sharp-shins, which did not cut their way later than about 1802 or 1803. The supply of small silver coins for change, was insufficient for the traffic of the country generally, and recourse was had to subdividing the larger ones, by the aid of a shears, or a chisel and mallet, or even of an axe in expert hands. A quarter of a dollar would be radiated and subdivided into six parts, or a pistareen into five parts, each one of which, called a "half bit", passed for threepence; but it was strange, that these several parts formed a sort



Sharp Shins and Cobs

of Chinese puzzle, and less possible to solve, for you could never put the five or six parts together so as fully to cover a similar coin entire. The deficiency went for seignorage to the clipper, and from him to the silver-smith. "Bits" were in semicircular form; "half bits" in quadrants. The coins that were to suffer the torture of dismemberment were, it was said, first beaten out to increased expansion, so as to be susceptible of a sort of Hibernian divisibility, into three halves or six quarters, besides an irregular bit, which was not good money except to the coiner. The eighth of a dollar (twelve and a half cents) was expanded and cut into two bits or sixpences. Dollars even were cut into halves and quarters in cases of emergency. It was no uncommon thing in the country, when change could not be otherwise made, to chop the dollar into parts with an axe, and thus meet the contingency. A jar containing \$500 worth of old silver coins, including cob dollars, cut dollars and half bits, was ploughed up in Surry, in 1859.

Purses and pockets were not proof against sharp-shins. Money is said to burn the pockets of some folks - sharp-shins cut the pockets of all - and the profit of making them induced many to engage in it.

Like various other evils, it cured itself by excess.

The market became overstocked with cut money, and perfect coins disappeared in the same proportion. So on one fine day, several influential citizens met and drew up an obligation, by which every one who signed it bound himself not to receive or pay a piece of cut money after a certain day; and behold, the sharp-shins disappeared at the appointed time, as their successors, the small-fry currency of shin plasters have since vanished at two or three successive periods; some by redemption and some by repudiation, when the community refused to submit longer to the evil - and thus endeth the chapter of sharp-shins, shin-plasters and sharpers.

NOTES: Samuel Mordecai was born in New York in 1786, the son of Jacob Mordecai and Judith Meyers Mordecai, who was a daughter of Myer Myers, the well-known silversmith. While Samuel was small the family moved to Warrenton, North Carolina. In 1798, at age twelve, he was sent to live with his uncle, Samuel Myers, in Richmond, and learn business methods. When he became of age he went into business as a commission merchant, and in the 1820's moved to Petersburg. Mordecai returned to Richmond around 1839, and published the first edition of his book, RICHMOND IN BY-GONE DAYS in 1856. A second, slightly revised edition appeared in 1860. His book, which reflects its author's genial personality and his deep love for Richmond, is his lasting memorial. Samuel, a life-long bachelor, lived in the home of his stepmother until her death, and in 1863 moved to Raleigh, North Carolina to live with a niece. He died in Raleigh in April, 1865, and is buried there. It was perhaps a mercy that he did not live to see his beloved Richmond laid in ruins.

It is fortunate that Samuel Mordecai left us an account of the cut coins and shinplaster scrip that circulated in Richmond in the first half of the Nineteenth Century. The bulk of the cut coins must have quickly ended up in the melting pot after they ceased to be current, for they are seldom seen today. The few specimens turned up occasionally by searchers with metal detectors probably represent casual losses. Mordecai's book was written six years before the Civil War. The shinplasters he mentioned, presumably issued during the hard times of the 1830's and '40's, have also disappeared with scarcely a trace. Richmond scrip of that era is exceedingly rare, and very few of us

have ever seen any.

THE STANDARD CATALOG OF WORLD COINS

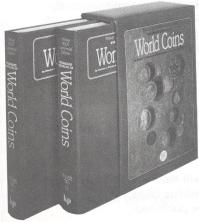
DELUXE ANA CENTENNIAL EDITION

by Chester Krause & Clifford Mishler Published by Krause Publications, Iola, WI

Two volumes, hardbound in slip case. Price \$145.00 plus \$7.50 for shipping to addresses in the USA

Collectors of world coins, especially those who go in for the older issues, will welcome the arrival of the new deluxe 19th edition of Krause's STANDARD CATALOG OF WORLD COINS. With more than 3000 pages, this new two volume work, the culmination of five years of research by numerous specialists, is, beyond any doubt, the largest and most complete work of its kind ever published.

Spanning the period 1701 to the present, the new catalog lists more than 200,000 coins by date and mint, with over 62,000 full-size illustrations. More than 500,000 market valuations are given in up to the four most common grades of preservation.



New material in this deluxe 2 volume edition includes:

- Listings for all of the prolific Holy Roman Empire Mints, the majority now listed under Austria, from the 1701-1740 period.

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The standard Krause/Mishler (KM) numbering system is used, with additional cross referencing to earlier numbering systems. The catalog of course contains such information as mintage figures, actual precious metal weights, identifier and monogram charts, historical sketches,&c.

All collectors and students of World coinage will want to own this elegant work, which can be purchased from local dealers, or ordered from Krause Publications, 700 East State Street, Iola, WI 54990.

VNA MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

QUESTIONNAIRE

At the VNA board meeting held 27 July 1991 it was decided that a membership directory might allow our members to meet or correspond with other members who have similar collecting interests. It has always been VNA's policy to hold our membership roll confidential, and never to provide it to anyone, regardless of circumstances. THIS POLICY WILL NOT CHANGE. The full membership roll will continue to be maintained by the Secretary-Treasurer, and will not be released to anyone for any reason. The Membership Directory is a separate and distinct activity.

If you are interested in participating in a membership directory, please detach this questionnaire from the magazine, fill it out, and return it to the Secretary-Treasurer by 1 May 1992. The following rules will apply:

- 1. Only VNA members will receive a directory.
- Only members and member clubs volunteering information will be published.

YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS WILL NOT BE PUBLISHED IN THE DIRECTORY UNLESS YOU FILL OUT THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONNAIRE AND RETURN IT.

QUESTIONNAIRE

Α.	Individual Member: Dealer \square No \square Yes			
	Name:			
	Address:			
	Phone (optional): () -			
	Collecting Specialty(ies):			
	Collecting Specially(les).			
В.	Member Club:			
	Name of Club:			
	Address:			
	Dues:			
	Day and time of meetings:			
	Meeting location/directions:			
	Maria de la companya			
	Activities at meetings:			
	If you sponsor a coin show, when & where:			
	Contact Person: Name:			
	Phone: ()			

Return your completed form to:

KEITH LITTLEFIELD

3902 ROSE LANE

ANNANDALE, VA 22003

VIRGINIA OBSOLETE PAPER MONEY

Edited by Richard H. Jones and Keith E. Littlefield
Designed by Frank R. Hannah
Published by the Virginia Numismatic Association

After several years of painstaking work, VNA's new book, VIRGINIA OBSOLETE PAPER MONEY is in the final stages of production. Book shipments are now scheduled to begin on March 15, 1992.

This single 500 page volume is a complete update of the two volume work, THE OBSOLETE PAPER MONEY OF VIRGINIA by the late Charles J. Affleck, published by VNA in 1968 and 1969, and now out of print.

The new book will include all known Virginia obsolete notes from 1770 to 1880, except for Virginia colonial notes and national bank notes. There are many new entries of items discovered over the past twenty years, including material from the American Bank Note Co. Archives. Separate sections are devoted to the following classes of issues: Virginia Treasury Notes

City and Town Notes

County and Sheriff Notes

Private Scrip
Notes of all Virginia Banks (chartered, savings, private, etc.)

Each note is identified by a catalog number, accompanied by a rarity and price guide. There are about 2000 half size illustrations; many entries include brief historical accounts.

Collectors, dealers, curators, librarians and persons interested in the financial history of Virginia will find this book invaluable. It will be the standard reference on Virginia currency for years to come.

The new VIRGINIA OBSOLETE PAPER MONEY will be available in two forms:

- Hardbound (ISBN 1-878029-00-2). The price is \$57.25, which includes the Virginia sales tax of \$2.25 and \$5.00 for shipping by UPS.
- Special unbound copies (ISBN 1-878029-01-0), will also be available, either plain or drilled for a three ring binder, at the option of the buyer. The price is \$52.00, which includes the Va. sales Tax of \$2.00 and the shipping charge of \$5.00.

A dealer discount of 40% is given on orders for three or more books

Virginia dealers are requested to furnish their tax exemption numbers with their orders.

Orders for books, and requests for information should be sent to:

Virginia Numismatic Association 3902 Rose Lane Annandale, VA 22003

Make checks payable to: VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

NEWS OF OUR CLUBS

ALEXANDRIA COIN CLUB. Meets at 8:00 PM on the 3rd.Wednesday of each month at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St, Alexandria, Va. The Sept. meeting featured a program on the U.S. Mint.

BLUE RIDGE COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 pm on the last Tuesday of each month at 105 North 1st St. in Charlottesville.

KENT COIN CLUB. No news. Please send in the day, time & place of your meetings, plus accounts of your activities for publication.

MONTICELLO COIN CLUB. No news. Please send in the day, time & place of your meetings, plus accounts of your activities for publication.

PIEDMONT COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 PM on the 4th Tuesday of each month at the YMCA in Collinsville, VA.

RICHMOND COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 PM the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Signet Bank Bldg., 7 North 8th St. in Richmond. In November the club held its annual donated auction sale which raised \$91.25 for the treasury. The celebrated RCC Commemorative Brass Plug made its annual appearance, fetching \$17.00 from winning bidder Rob Buckey.In December members & guests feasted on ribs, barbecue, etc. at Extra Billy's.

ROANOKE VALLEY COIN CLUB. Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Roanoke City Library on Jefferson St.

SALEM COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month in Room B of the Salem Civic Center at $7:30\ PM$.

SHENANDOAH VALLEY COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month in Fishersville at the Mary Switzer Bldg., Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center, at 7:30 PM.

SOUTHSIDE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION. Meets at 7:30 PM on the 4th Monday of each month in the community room at Cavalier Square Shopping Center in Hopewell.

TIDEWATER COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd. Wednesday each month at the Lake Wright Motor Hotel on Northampton Blvd., Va. Beach.

WASHINGTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY. Meets at the Washington Congregational Church, 3526 Massachusetts Ave, N.W., Washington, D.C. on 3rd Tuesdays. In Nov. Serge Moss spoke on Credit Card Collecting, and in Dec. Larry Marsh presented a program on C.S.A. Notes.

WILLIAMSBURG COIN CLUB. Meets at 7 PM on the 2nd Friday of each month at Mortimer's Locksmith Shop in Norge, Va. Take Norge exit from I-64.

VIRGINIA PENINSULA COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 PM on the 3rd Monday of each month at the War Memorial Museum in Newport News. At the October meeting members participated in a buy, sell, swap session, followed by an auction sale of material consigned by the wife of a former member.

ANCIENT NUMISMATIC SOC. OF WASHINGTON. Meets in the homes of members. For info.write to W.E. McGovern, P.O.Box 2495, Gaithersburg, MD 20886.

APPLICANTS FOR MEMBERSHIP

The following applicants will become members of the Virginia Numismatic Association 20 days after the mailing of this notice unless objections are received, in which case the VNA Board will decide

TENNESSEE STATE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION 27th Annual Spring Convention and Coin Show

The TSNA will hold its annual spring convention and show March 20-22, at the Quality Inn, East Ridge, Chattanooga, Tennessee. To get there take Exit 1 from I-75. In addition to the bourse, there will be an educational forum, and the Annual Membership Meeting will be held. For information on tables, contact: Ruth Armstrong

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SHOW CALENDAR

OULLE	Towson, MD Quality Inn, York Rd.	TOWSON COIN SHOW
Jan.25-26	Vienna, VA Vienna Community Center	NORTHERN VA COIN CLUB SHOW
Feb.14-16	Charlotte, NC Merchandise Mart	CHARLOTTE COIN CLUB
Feb.23	Towson, MD Quality Inn, York Rd.	TOWSON COIN SHOW
Mar.20-22	Chattanooga, TN Quality Inn	TENNESSEE STATE NUMISMATIC ASSOC.
Mar.29	Towson, MD Quality Inn, York Rd.	TOWSON COIN SHOW
Apr.25-26	Vienna, VA Vienna Community Center	NORTHERN VA COIN CLUB SHOW
May 16-17	Raleigh, NC Mission Valley Inn	RALEIGH COIN CLUB
Sept.18-20	McLean, VA Westpark Hotel	VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

SHOW CALENDAR POLICY

The Show Calendar lists both club and commercial shows in Virginia and neighboring states, plus ANA and MANA events wherever held. Shows in other places will be listed on request. If you want to have your show listed, please send a notice, and send it as early as you can. All notices received will be published except those for shows that will have occurred prior to publication of the next issue. To have your show listed, send a notice to:
The Editor,712 Westover Rd., Richmond, VA 23220;TEL:804-358-0525

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W.P. Anderson, 923 Franklin St., Winchester, VA 22601

WANTED: Encased coins from all states. Describe and price. Ginnie Aldridge, 515 Pinehurst Ave. Colonial Heights, VA 23834

WANTED: Notes with full S.C. UPHAM imprint. Sam Roakes, 281 Rustic Ridge Drive, Kennesaw, GA 30144

WOODEN NICKELS from '86, '87, '88, '89, '90 and '91 VNA conventions are still available. Price 50¢ each plus SASE. Order from: VNA, 515 Pinehurst Avenue, Colonial Heights, VA 23834

FOR SALE: Virginia section of Dun & Bradstreet:1923 \$8.00, 1930 \$10.00 1940 \$10.00, 1944 \$8.00 & 1955 \$5.00, or will trade for Virginia tokens

Page Mann, PO Box 1684, Williamsburg, VA 23187-1684 (804) 220-2077.

WANTED: Virginia tokens, merchant, coal, transportation and parking, for my personal collection. Describe and price. Elvin B. Miller, PO Box 366, Topping, VA 23169

WANTED: B.P.O.E. (Elks) & I.B.P.O.E.W. exonumia. Will buy or trade. J.M. Boswell, P.O. Box 428, Gambrills, MD 21054-0428

Send your ad of 30 words or less (not including name & address) to:
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LUTHER FRANK CLUVERIUS

1905-1991

L. Frank Cluverius of Richmond, Va., a retired employee of the E.I. DuPont Corp. died on October 8, 1991 of injuries sustained in a traffic accident. He joined VNA in 1967, and was also a long-time member of ANA and the Richmond Coin Club, of which he served as president in 1955-56. Although he had ceased to collect, and had disposed of his collection years ago, he never lost his love for numismatics, and he will be sincerely missed by his many friends. VNA extends its condolences to his wife, Marjorie, his daughter Patricia and his son James.



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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

Address all official mail of the Virginia Numismatic Association to:
Keith Littlefield, Secretary-Treasurer
3902 Rose Lane, Annandale, Virginia 22003

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Secretary-TreasurerKeith Littlefield, Annandale,	
Sergeant-at-ArmsRobert W. Bunn, Newport News,	

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W. Page Mann, 1991Williamsburg,	Virginia
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Mervyn H. Reynolds, 1991Newport News,	Virginia
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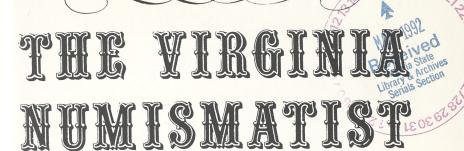


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VOLUME 28 NUMBER 2 MARCH 1992

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Full Page	\$20.00	\$ 95.00
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Advertisers please note: No Ads will be accepted from Minors without their parents consent. All ads must have Numismatic significance. Special or unusual copy requirements will be billed extra. If in doubt, please write for details.

The Virginia Numismatic Association has on file the names and addresses of all Advertisers. Any complaints or requests for information regarding advertisers should be referred to The Virginia Numismatic Association at 712 Westover Road, Richmond, Virginia 23220. The right to edit copy, to require payment in advance, and to decline any advertisement is specifically reserved.

ADVERTISING COPY DEADLINES

The deadline for all copy is the first of the month preceding month of issue (e.g., April 1st for May 10th issue).

THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

VOLUME 28 NUMBER 2 MARCH 1992

The VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST is the Official Publication of The Virginia Numismatic Association, Inc. and is published six times each year. Articles and items for publication are welcomed and solicited. All six issues are mailed from Hampton, Virginia at the Third Class Postal Rate and cannot be forwarded, so be sure and send us your change of address.

All mail relating to The Virginia Numismatist and Advertising therein should be directed to Jim Ruehrmund, Editor, 712 Westover Road, Richmond, Va. 23220.

Direct all other correspondence about membership, address changes, etc. to the secretary-treasurer, Keith Littlefield, 3902 Rose Lane, Annandale, Virginia 22003.

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER



This year will be one of the most interesting, albeit difficult years in recent history. The economy refuses to cooperate and continues to flounder. The newly formed nations of the former USSR and Eastern European countries struggle with the problems of a free market, and on and on.

Despite the doom and gloom, this promises to be a banner year for numismatists; prices are at twenty year lows, many new countries will be introduced, commemorative coins will proliferate, each province of Canada will issue a silver dollar, etc., etc., ect.

Spring traditionally signifies rebirth — a renaissance — and now is the perfect time to revitalize the interest of the longtime collect—as well as the neophyte. During the month of January, I will attempt to present the hobby to the Richmond area schools, as some of you are doing in your areas. This type of involvement, along with the local Coin Club's activities constitutes the backbone of the organization.

I look forward to seeing you at Waynesboro in March, and, in the meantime, I welcome any comments, suggestions or ideas regarding numismatics, and, specifically VNA activities.

Sincerely, Jim Harvey President

* IT'S DUES TIME AGAIN *

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PLEASE SEND TO: Keith Littlefield, Sec.-Treas. 3902 Rose Lane, Annandale, Virginia 22003

MEET OUR ADVERTISERS. 2

KRAUSE PUBLICATIONS

This is the second in the series of profiles of our advertising patrons, whose advertisements in THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST help finance its publication. These are people who are a vital part of our hobby, having made it their business to serve collectors. VNA deeply apprwciates their valued support.

It's a long way from Virginia to Iola, Wisconsin, the home of Krause Publications, but this is a company that is no stranger to VNA members, who enjoy their numismatic periodicals, and rély on their standard catlogs. What's more, our acquaintanceship with Krause has never been an impersonal one. Both Chester L. (Chet) Krause, the company's founder, and board chairman, and Clifford (Cliff) Mishler, its president, are long time VNA members. Chet is member no.436; Cliff is life member no.48.



Chet Krause



Cliff Mishler

Krause Publications, which celebrates its fortieth anniversary this year, started in 1952 with the publication of NUMISMATIC NEWS as a one man operation by Chet Krause in his home town of Iola, Wisconsin. From that modest beginning their family of numismatic periodicals has grown to include BANKNOTE REPORTER, COIN PRICES, COINS, and WORLD COIN NEWS well as NUMISMATIC NEWS. In the field of reference books their catalogs and other works, far too numerous to list here, are known and valued world-wide. They currently have twenty nine titles in print.

In the 1970s the company began to diversify into other hobby fields, and now offers publications on sports cards, collector cars, comic books, firearms, hunting, records and toys.

Krause Publications, with a staff of 320, who last year turned 5010 tons of paper into publications, is today a giant in its field, a giant that has remained unfailingly supportive of organizations like ours. Their full page ads have appeared in this magazine since July, 1974. They also appear in the publications of the societies of other states, and all of us owe them thanks for their support.

The Virginia Numismatic Association extends warmest congratulations to Chet Krause, Cliff Mishler and their entire staff on the occasion of the company's fortieth anniversary, and we wish them much success and prosperity in the years to come.

THE HALF DIME

by Ben Lowe

Most of my coins are in a bank vault now — have been for nearly ten years. It's a good vault, except for being about 600 miles away (at home in Jacksonville, Florida); and once I started collecting seriously as an adult, I realized that they really needed to be there instead of the cigar box I lovingly put them in when I was twelve. They are there, in boxes, in Sear or Yeoman or Craig or K-M order, lined up in their hard plastic Whitman holders; "to be preserved forever", like the stamp on KGB files. But I don't get to see them much anymore.

I've got a few here in Woodbridge, though -- mostly ones bought since my last foray to my mother's. Hasn't really been a good year for coin collecting--I got called up for Desert Storm (didn't leave Washington, but I was kind of busy for a while), then I got transferred to another office within the State Department, then I had to go to Panama for a month -- a whole long list of things. Haven't even been to Prince William Stamp and Coin since mid-May.

So it was that this evening I tripped over the attache-case-sized box which holds my coin supplies (and the maybe 75 coins awaiting transportation south). In the spirit of getting ready for our holiday trip to Florida, I took out the boxes and began absently to check that the coins were catalogued and ready to put in with the others. And then it began.

"I remember this one — a George III shilling, maybe Fine (if I put some body English into it), bought it for three bucks at a flea market, of all places. That Constantius II "votive" bronze, from a grab bag —got the dirt off, turned out to be very fine; still not worth much, but it does look nice. I wonder if the late Emperor's face was really that flat... That silver rider I bought in Kuala Lumpur the week after my daughter Melissa was born — wanted it to fill out my South African crown collection, even though the blasted dealer cleaned it. It probably spent a year in the hold of a Dutch East Indiaman getting to Java, buying spices or cloth and changing Africa and Asia on the way."

The uncirculated Victoria farthing, the pretty Peruvian sol, even a worthless Mexican bronze peso -- none of them rarities, or even the subject of significant articles in The Numismatist; each has a story or two to tell -- and a clear memory of my own to go with it.

Then I saw it at the bottom. It was a bent, cleaned, fair-at-best 1872 half dime. I had found it on February 28, 1968, when I had just turned eleven, and was staying home from school with a cold. Long forgotten in the rush of more serious pursuits (numismatic and otherwise), I remember the joy of finding it under the baseboard of my parent's old house, of wondering what on earth a half dime could be, of putting it carefully on my bed to study it, all the while imagining it in Custer's pocket at the Little Big Horn, or charging up San Juan Hill with Teddy Roosevelt and the Rough Riders, or any of a dozen other improbable but romantic places. My father took me to downtown Trenton, New Jersey, where the old-time dealer wasn't too busy to show a little boy his coin's picture in the Redbook, and was kind enough not to shatter the child's illusions about its value or rarity.

In the next three months, I took that coin almost everywhere, and then I began to read. There were soon other coins — silver dollars from my uncle's store, a Barber dime I got in change from a Coke machine (try that now!) — and I was suddenly saving my allowance to go back to the dealer and buy steel cents or worn Buffalo nickels. I remember the joy of buying my first "real" coin — a \$28 1876S Trade Dollar.

Since then my work has taken me to every continent, and I have managed to collect some fairly serious coins (although certainly no auction-making rarities). I've been in and out of active collecting a couple of times, always keeping my hand in with proof sets or Notgeld or Confederate paper. None of the coins I've bought since, though, will top the half dime. For sheer love, it takes it every time.

I'll try to remember that the next time I see a boy or girl looking through pocket change or asking questions at a show — and I hope you will, too. I'll think of the half dime next month when I sit in the cold bank vault, and maybe I'll take a few minutes to look at all those coins — not just the uncirculated German 2—mark pieces or the 12-Caesars denarii, but the steel cents and torn Confederate notes, or maybe the almost-smooth 1891 Morgan my uncle once gave me for helping sweep the store.

As for the half dime, I think I'll put it where Melissa will find it in a few years — and maybe she, too, will wonder what the strange little piece of silver might be, and what romance and mystery it saw on its way to her.

THE AUTHOR. Ben Lowe describes himself as "an occasionally-serious numismatist who doubles as a Foreign Service Officer during the day". When he joined VNA last year, Ben said that he would write for the magazine, and he's been as good as his word. Many thanks, Ben, please keep it up. J.C.R.

CHARLES ERNEST ECHOLS

1924-1991

Charles E. Echols, of Charlottesville, Va., a professor of engineering at the University of Virginia, died on Sept 25, 1991. Born in Alderson, West Va., he grew in Staunton, was educated at V.M.I. and the University of Virginia, and joined the U. Va. faculty in 1957.

Professor Echols, who joined VNA in 1970 as member No.391, was an advanced collector of obsolete paper currency, and a contributor of information for the new VNA book, VIRGINIA OBSOLETE PAPER MONEY.

The Va. Numismatic Association extends deepest sympathy to his wife, Catherine, his daughter Heather and his sons Charles, Darcy and Carter.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Between April 15 and June 1 nominations for the following VNA offices will be received for the 1992-1994 term: Sergeant-at-Arms, and three members of the Board of Directors. Candidates must be members in good standing. Nominations should be sent to:

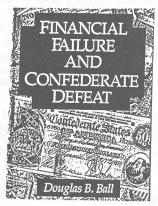
VNA, 712 Westover Road, Richmond, VA 23220

FINANCIAL FAILURE AND CONFEDERATE DEFEAT

by Douglas B. Ball, PhD

Published by the University of Illinois Press Available from R.M. Smythe & Co., Inc. 26 Broadway, Suite 271, New York, NY 10004-1701 Price; \$29.95, plus \$1.50 for mailing

Dr. Doug Ball's background in economics, together with his decades of study and research in Confederate currency and finance have uniquely prepared him to write what Dr. Frank Vandiver calls in his forward, "a tough opinionated book". Doug's thesis is that the final defeat of the Confederacy can, in large part, be attributed to inept management of the new nation's finances and economy. All aspects of the South's economic situation, including commerce, specie supplies, taxation, loans currency management, etc. are covered in a closely reasoned and thoroughly documented analysis that points to fatal deficiencies in executive leadership on the part of President Davis and his Secretary of the Treasury, Christopher G. Memminger.



Hindsight may always be 20-20, but Doug points out that what the South lacked was foresight. The Federal Government, faced with many of the same economic problems, handled them much better because the pragmatic Lincoln never hesitated to bend or even ignore principles in order to achieve his objectives, whereas the dogmatic Davis would not, even when faced with defeat.

Collectors will find the chapter on currency management particularly interesting. The great array of state, local, bank and private issues may be fun to collect, but the govern-

ment's failure to supress such issues added to the already serious inflation. Although a lot of currency was printed, failures in distribution left troops unpaid, resulting in a crippling rate of desertion.

This is a book which all students of the "Late Unpleasantness" will find both informative and thought provoking.

1992 VNA CONVENTION PROGRAM

Whether you realize it or not, the 1992 VNA Convention will soon be here. It's only six months away, so it's time to be thinking again of ads and patrons for the program. The income helps with the expenses of our Convention and Coin Show, and we appeal to our members and friends for their support. The cost of program ads is:

Full Page: \$25.00 ½ Page: \$15.00 ¼ Page: \$7.50
You can be listed as a patron for the modest sum of \$2.00, which won't buy many coins, byt WILL materially aid VNA. Send your ads and patron names, with check payable to the Virginia Numismatic Association to:
THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST, 712 Westover Rd., Richmond, VA 23220.

THE WALT MASON NUMISMATIC AWARD

The Walt Mason Award Committee has announced that nominations for this year's award must be in by 1 July 1992. The award, if one is presented this year, will be announced at the VNA convention next September. Selection for the award is based long term numismatic achievement, rather than on any single accomplishment. Nominees must be, or have been, numismatically active in the Middle Atlantic area of Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, The District of Columbia Virginia and the Carolinas. Criteria for the award, reflecting the qualities of Walt Mason himself, include: long term commitment to the encouragement of new collectors; educational activities such as speaking, writing and exhibiting; long term active participation in numismatic organizations; zeal to assist collectors in their specialties and various intangibles, such as personality. Any one can submit a nomination, which should be in letter form, covering the above mentioned criteria. Nominees do not have to be VNA members. VNA serves only as the forum for the award announcement and presentation, and our association has no part in the award administration and selection process. Persons nominated in 1991 need not be renominated. If you know of a deserving person, send a nomination to:

The Walt Mason Fund, P.O. Box 2201, Springfield, VA 22152

NATIONAL COIN WEEK, 1992

National Coin Week will be observed between the 19th and the 26th of April. The theme tentatively selected for this year is "Christopher Columbus and the Voyage of Discovery". Coin Week, which has been sponsored every year since 1924 by the American Numismatic Association, is an occasion for clubs and individual collectors to promote our hobby, and share its pleasures with others. Usual activities include placing exhibits in such places as libraries, banks and malls, and presenting talks to school and civic groups. ANA plans for 1992 were not yet firm at the time of this writing, so watch for announcements in THE NUMISMATIST, NUMISMATIC NEWS, COIN WORLD, etc.

The Wizard of Id/by Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



THE WIZARD OF ID is reproduced by permission of Mr. Johnny Hart and the North America Syndicate, Inc.

VNA MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

QUESTIONNAIRE

At the VNA board meeting held 27 July 1991 it was decided that a membership directory might allow our members to meet or correspond with other members who have similar collecting interests. It has always been VNA's policy to hold our membership roll confidential, and never to provide it to anyone, regardless of circumstances. THIS POLICY WILL NOT CHANGE. The full membership roll will continue to be maintained by the Secretary-Treasurer, and will not be released to anyone for any reason. The Membership Directory is a separate and distinct activity.

If you are interested in participating in a membership directory, please detach this questionnaire from the magazine, fill it out, and return it to the Secretary-Treasurer by 1 May 1992. The following rules will apply:

- 1. Only VNA members will receive a directory.
- Only members and member clubs volunteering information will be published.

YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS WILL NOT
BE PUBLISHED IN THE DIRECTORY
UNLESS YOU FILL OUT THE
FOLLOWING QUESTIONNAIRE
AND RETURN IT.

QUESTIONNAIRE

Indi	vidual Member:		Dealer		☐ Yes
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Return your completed form to:

KEITH LITTLEFIELD

3902 ROSE LANE

ANNANDALE, VA 22003

VIRGINIA OBSOLETE PAPER MONEY

Edited by Richard H. Jones and Keith E. Littlefield Published by the Virginia Numismatic Association

VNA's new book, VIRGINIA OBSOLETE PAPER MONEY is now available. This 500 page work will list all known Virginia obsolete notes from 1770 to 1880, except for Va. colonial notes and national bank notes, which are thoroughly covered in other publications.

There are many new entries of items discovered over the past twenty years, including material from the American Bank Note Co. Archives.

Separate sections are devoted to the following classes of issues:
Virginia Treasury Notes City and Town Notes
County and Sheriff Notes Private Scrip
Notes of all Virginia Banks (chartered, savings, private, etc.)

Each note is identified by a catalog number, accompanied by a rarity and price guide. There are about 2000 half size illustrations; many entries include brief historical accounts.

The new VIRGINIA OBSOLETE PAPER MONEY is available in two forms:

- Hardbound (ISBN 1-878029-00-2) @ \$57.25 (includes tax & shipping.by UPS.)
- Unbound (ISBN 1-878029-01-0), either plain or drilled for three ring binder @ \$52.00 (includes sales tax and shipping by UPS.)

A dealer discount of 40% is given on orders for three or more books

Virginia dealers are requested to furnish their tax exemption numbers with their orders.

Orders for books, and requests for information should be sent to:

Virginia Numismatic Association 3902 Rose Lane Annandale, VA 22003

Make checks payable to: VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

PNG BOOK on COIN COLLECTING

The Professional Numismatists Guild, Inc. (PNG), as part of its new consumer protection and education programs is distributing free copies of its booklet, THE PLEASURE OF COIN COLLECTING. The author, past PNG and ANA president, Q. David Bowers, has, in a very short scope managed to cover all of the essential topics: value determination and buying mints, Early American Coins, 19th and 20th Century U.S. Coins, U.S. Gold, Commemoratives, Ancients, World Coins, etc. This little sixteen page publication is just the thing for non-collectors who are thinking of getting into the hobby. To obtain a free copy, write to:

P.N.G., P.O. Box 430, Van Nuys, CA 91408, or call (818) 781-1764.

NEWS OF OUR CLUBS

ALEXANDRIA COIN CLUB. Meets at 8:00 PM on the 3rd.Wednesday of each month at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St, Alexandria, Va.

BLUE RIDGE COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 pm on the last Tuesday of each month at 105 North 1st St. in Charlottesville.

KENT COIN CLUB. No news. Please send in the day, time & place of your meetings, plus accounts of your activities for publication.

MONTICELLO COIN CLUB. No news. Please send in the day, time & place of your meetings, plus accounts of your activities for publication.

PIEDMONT COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 PM on the 4th Tuesday of each month at the YMCA in Collinsville, VA.

RICHMOND COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 PM the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Signet Bank Bldg., 7 North 8th St. in Richmond. At the January meeting Pres. Jim Harvey gave a talk on Chinese cash, and in February Joe Bush spoke on Germanic coins.

ROANOKE VALLEY COIN CLUB. Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Roanoke City Library on Jefferson St.

SALEM COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month in Room B of the Salem Civic Center at $7:30\ PM$.

SHENANDOAH VALLEY COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month in Fishersville at the Mary Switzer Bldg., Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center, at $7:30\ PM.$

SOUTHSIDE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION. Meets at 7:30 PM on the 4th Monday of each month in the community room at Cavalier Square Shopping Center in Hopewell.

TIDEWATER COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd. Wednesday each month at the Lake Wright Motor Hotel on Northampton Blvd., Va. Beach.

WASHINGTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY. Meets at the Washington Congregational Church, 3526 Massachusetts Ave, N.W., Washington, D.C. on 3rd Tuesdays. In Jan. they installed new officers for 1992, and then held a "Show & Tell" session, followed by an auction sale.

WILLIAMSBURG COIN CLUB. Meets at 7 PM on the 2nd Friday of each month at Mortimer's Locksmith Shop in Norge, Va. Take Norge exit from I-64. At the Jan. meeting Pres. Duane McSmith led a group discussion on collecting foreign coins.

VIRGINIA PENINSULA COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 PM on the 3rd Monday of each month at the War Memorial Museum in Newport News. In Jan. they were treated to the ANA slide show on the history of money, narrated by Gov. Jurbala, and a "What's My Coin" game was conducted by John Gearhart. To Secretary Merv. Reynolds: many thanks for the nice VNA plug in the VPCC newsletter for January..

ANCIENT NUMISMATIC SOC. OF WASHINGTON. Meets in the homes of members. For info.write to W.E. McGovern, P.O.Box 2495, Gaithersburg, MD 20886.



Officers of the Richmond Coin Club, installed at the dinner meetinl last December. Right to left, Pres. Jim Harvey, Secretary-Treasurer Louise Campbell Tickle and Vice President Chad Young.

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SHOW CALENDAR

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	Kingsport, TN c Auditorium, Fort Henry Dr.	MODEL CITY COIN CLUB
	Towson, MD Quality Inn, York Rd.	TOWSON COIN SHOW
malo m · m -	Towson, MD Quality Inn, York Rd.	CATONSVILLE COIN CLUB
	Vienna, VA Vienna Community Center	NORTHERN VA COIN CLUB SHOW
Apr.26	Towson, MD Quality Inn, York Rd.	TOWSON COIN SHOW
May 16-17	Raleigh, NC Mission Valley Inn	RALEIGH COIN CLUB
May 31	Towson, MD Quality Inn, York Rd.	TOWSON COIN SHOW
June 19-21	Baltimore, MD Festival Hall	MARYLAND STATE NUMISMATIC ASSOC.
Sept.18-20	McLean, VA Westpark Hotel	VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

SHOW CALENDAR POLICY

The Show Calendar lists both club and commercial shows in Virginia and neighboring states, plus ANA and MANA events wherever held. Other Shows will be listed on request. If you wish to have your show listed, please send a notice. All notices received will be published except for shows that will have occurred prior to publication of the next issue. Send notices to:

The Editor,712 Westover Rd., Richmond, VA 23220; TEL:804-358-0525

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Dorsey A. Howard, P.O. Box 418, Chesterfield, VA 23832-0418

WANTED: A Sept. 1968 VNA Fall Show promotion note reprint of the obsolete \$2 Norfolk, Va. note. Will trade.
W.P. Anderson, 923 Franklin St., Winchester, VA 22601

WANTED: Cancelled checks dated May 5, 1940 & 1946. Describe and price. Ginnie Aldridge, 515 Pinehurst Ave. Colonial Heights, VA 23834

WANTED: Notes with full S.C. UPHAM imprint. Sam Roakes, 281 Rustic Ridge Drive, Kennesaw, GA 30144

WOODEN NICKELS from the '91 VNA conventions are still available. Price $50 \, \varphi$ each plus SASE. Order from: VNA, 515 Pinehurst Avenue, Colonial Heights, VA 23834

WANTED: Virginia milk bottle caps. Have a few traders. Also have a few MAXX race cards to trade.

Page Mann, PO Box 1684, Williamsburg, VA 23187-1684; (804) 220-2077.

WANTED: Virginia tokens, merchant, coal, transportation and parking, for my personal collection. Describe and price. Elvin B. Miller, PO Box 366, Topping, VA 23169

WANTED: B.P.O.E. (Elks) & I.B.P.O.E.W. exonumia. Will buy or trade. J.M. Boswell, P.O. Box 428, Gambrills, MD 21054-0428

WANTED: MORE ADS FOR THE MONEY \$TORE. SEND THEM TO: Page Mann, p.o. box 1684, Williamsburg, VA 23187-1684

Send your ad of 30 words or less (not including name & address) to:
Page Mann, P.O. Box 1684, Williamsburg, VA 23187-1684

APPLICANTS FOR MEMBERSHIP

The following applicants will become members of the Virginia Numismatic Association 20 days after the mailing of this notice unless objections are received, in which case the VNA Board will decide Applicant Sponso

Grayson Derk Dodson, Springfield, Virginia. Jim Ruehrmund
Gene Elliott, Decatur, Georgia. Jim Ruehrmund
Robert R. Huisman, Manassas, Virginia. Keith Littlefield
Gerald W. Via, Roanoke, Virginia. Jim Ruehrmund



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THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

All mail relating to the Virginia Numismatist should be addressed to:
 Jim Ruehrmund, Editor
 712 Westover Road
 Richmond, Virginia 23220

VNA ELECTED OFFICERS

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2nd Vice PresidentStephen Bennett, III, Prince George.	Virginia
Secretary-TreasurerKeith Littlefield, Annandale,	Virginia
Sergeant-at-ArmsRobert W. Bunn, Newport News,	Virginia

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James M. Beard, 1990Lexington,	Virginia
Louis E. Doucet, 1991Petersburg,	Virginia
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W. Page Mann, 1991Williamsburg,	Virginia
Duane McSmith, 1991Norge,	Virginia
Robert M. New, 1990Roanoke Rapids, North	Carolina
Mervyn H. Reynolds, 1991Newport News,	Virginia
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The deadline for all copy is the first of the month preceding month of issue (e.g., April 1st for May 10th issue).

THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

VOLUME 28 NUMBER 3 MAY 1992

The VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST is the Official Publication of The Virginia Numismatic Association, Inc. and is published six times each year. Articles and items for publication are welcomed and solicited. All six issues are mailed from Hampton, Virginia at the Third Class Postal Rate and cannot be forwarded, so be sure and send us your change of address.

All mail relating to The Virginia Numismatist and Advertising therein should be directed to Jim Ruehrmund, Editor, 712 Westover Road, Richmond, Va. 23220.

Direct all other correspondence about membership, address changes, etc. to the secretary-treasurer, Keith Littlefield, 3902 Rose Lane, Annandale, Virginia 22003.

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER



I read an article in a numismatic publication last week. The main theme was the relationship between coin dealers and coin clubs. The success of one depends on the success of the other, and vice versa.

The past two issues of THE VIRGINIA NUM-ISMATIST have recognized our dealer advertisers in feature articles. Another appears in this issue, and others will follow in future issues. These are a small token of our thanks for their valued support of this association.

Down the years many individuals have given freely of their time to keep this organization going. I am referring to past officers, members of coin clubs and others, who do the many necessary tasks that help to make our hobby enjoyable. Del Haymaker, Marge Beard and Marge Hannah come immediately to mind for their efficient operation of the registration desk at the annual show and convention, but there are many others as well. I wish there was a way to personally meet and thank each and every one for this service and devotion, but lacking that, I hope this will suffice. We are fortunate to have a strong association, and we appreciate the effort of everyone. Thank you very muchl

Unfortunately, we have just lost another dedicated VNA member, Mr. Bynum Smith, who died on April 1. Like most giving people, Bynum was involved in many volunteer activities; luckily he made time for numismatics. He will be missed.

Sincerely, Jim Harvey President

* HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES? *

Junior Member	\$2.00
Regular Member	
Club or Organization	\$10.00

PLEASE SEND TO: Keith Littlefield, Sec.-Treas. 3902 Rose Lane, Annandale, Virginia 22003

MEET OUR ADVERTISERS. 3

IMPERIAL COINS

This is the third in the series of profiles of our advertising patrons, whose ads in THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST help to finance its publication. VNA is grateful for the support of these dedicated professionals, who supply us not only with good stuff for our collections, but also with advice and information.

Jerry Schmidt, a native Richmonder, got an early start in numismatics. He began collecting at age 10 in the early '40s, and his enthusiasm for the hobby has, if anything, grown over the years. After finishing school, Jerryt entered the U.S. Air Force as an intelligence specialist, and in 1951 was sent to Yale University to study Chinese. While there he met Ruthie, who hails from Geneva, N.Y., and they were married in 1953. Jerry's extensive travels with the Air Force provided plenty of



Jerry And Ruthie Schmidt

opportunities for coin collecting, and on his retirement from the service, the Schmidts came to Richmond and realized a long held ambition by opening a coin shop.

Imperial Coins opened in June, 1970 in the Imperial Building at Fifth and Franklin Streets, across from the John Marshall Hotel, and continues today in the same place. Imperial Coins offers a wide range of material: U.S. and world coins (including ancients) in all metals; U.S., obsolete and foreign paper money; tokens; medals, etc. They also carry an extensive line of supplies and publications. Whatever it may be that you're looking for, chances are that you'll find it at 5th & Franklin Streets, or at the Imperial table (first by the door) at our annual coin show.

Like many of us, Jerry Schmidt is a joiner. He joined ANA in 1954, and is a life member. He joined VNA on returning to Virginia in 1970, and served on the VNA Board from 1979 to 1986. In addition, he belongs to the American Numismatic Society, the IBNS, SPMC, MANA, and the Richmond Coin Club. He's also a fellow of the Royal Numismatic Society.

Imperial Coins has advertised in this magazine since 1988, and in the VNA convention program for many years before that. The Schmidt's support of VNA has not been confined only to advertising. They have had a table at our shows every year since 1970, and have always been generous in donating material for door prizes. They also were among those who advanced funds for publication of the new VNA book, VIRGINIA OBSOLETE PAPER MONEY.

This year the telephone company carelessly omitted the Imperial ad and listing in the Richmond Yellow Pages. They're still very much in business, so, if you haven't been in lately, pay them a visit.

Thanks a lot, Jerry and Ruthie, for your support of VNA, and for all you've done during the past 22 years to make our hobby more rewarding.

EDITORIAL

If attendance at coin shows is any indication, our hobby seems to have fallen on hard times. Attendance at our show last September was the lowest in years, and both the MANA and North Carolina State shows also experienced low attendance. Our '91 show was held at the Richmond Centre, and some have attributed the low attendance to reluctance on the part of the public to attend any event held in downtown Richmond. This simply is not the case. The Maymont Foundation's annual Flower and Garden Show, held at the Richmond Centre in February of this year, attracted 26,000 visitors, each of whom paid an admission fee of \$5.00. We obviously need to look elsewhere for the cause of our problem.

In his column STRIKING THE ISSUES in the January 27, '92 issue of COIN WORLD, collector-dealer Bruce Lorich expresses some interesting ideas on the current show situation. He observed that despite the many appeals of coin collecting, "a malaise lies over our hobby like a shroud over a departed dear friend", and went on to develop his theme that "coins should aim at gun show action". He described a gun show he had attended, which, despite a \$4 admission charge, was packed with people. The dealers at that show paid only \$25 to \$35 for their tables (about 5-10% of the price of coin show tables) and this attracted a wide variety of dealers, including a number of collectors seeking to dispose of surplus material. He also noted the complete absence of quibbling over grading, with the gun collectors relying on their own judgment. He drew several conclusions from his visit to the gun show. First, both dealers and collectors should practise self reliance in the matter of grading, with less emphasis placed on third party grading. Second, and most important, the time has come to reduce table fees, and impose an admission charge at coin shows, since, as he put it, "People tend to value what costs and to dismiss what's free".

The latter may be an idea whose time has come. Perhaps VNA needs to consider holding a spring show structured in that fashion, with VNA members admitted free, and others paying a modest admission fee, which could be credited toward their dues if they become members. The economics of this scheme would have to be carefully worked out, but it

may be a possible solution to our problem.

On the other hand, it may not. Coin collectors have always been accustomed to free admission at coin shows, and I have heard many collectors vehemently state that they would never pay admission to a coin show. Considering that, once inside, they are prepared to spend big bucks for numismatic material, this is a rather strange attitude, but we must acknowledge that it is widespread in our hobby.

For my part, I've never hesitated to put out a couple of dollars for admission to flea markets, antique shows, etc. when I've had a reasonable expectation of finding a few numismatic odds and ends I would like to buy, and at reasonable prices. Having found nothing meeting those criteria for well over a year, I seldom go any more. Could something of this sort be happening with coin shows too?

Although the speculators have moved on to sports cards and other such trash, few numismatists have given up the hobby, so the malaise must have some other cause. Could it be prices? This has been largely ignored, but one of the three pillars of price is demand, and, catalogs notwithstanding, when demand drops, prices must follow. So far, they haven't. In the final analysis, all of the stuff we collect is worth (aside from intrinsic value) precisely what some dunderhead is willing to pay. Maybe the collectors are waiting for a price drop.

One thing is certain: whatever happens, our hobby will survive and bring pleasure to dedicated collectors, as it has done for centuries.

A REPORT FROM COL. JESSE MARTIN ON

THE THOMAS JEFFERSON H.S. COIN CLUB

now three years old, the Thomas Jefferson High School Coin Club is alive and doing well. The first two years were hard. We had less than a dozen club members, and half a dozen attended the monthly meetings. Last year was better. We went to weekly meetings, which made a major difference. By the end of the year we had 25 members, with 12 to 15 attending each meeting.

My goal for this school year was to get 40 kids to join the club, and to have 20 attend each meeting. Half way through the year we have already exceeded those goals. We now have 46 members, and we are averaging 23 at each meeting. I expect at least 30 of these YNs to become adult coin collectors. In the four years of the program we have

developed over 60 new coin collectors.

It was hard work to get the club started, and it continues to be hard work to keep it going. However, we have been lucky enough to get a tremendous amount of support from the VNA and individual VNA members. My thanks to the VNA Board of Governors, the VNA officers, and Keith Littlefield in particular, for your help.

It takes an awful lot of American and foreign coins, Redbooks, other U.S. Numismatic specialty books, Krause world coin books, and other foreign coin books; new or used coin albums, plastic pages and 2X2 coin holders; and items like magnifying glasses to keep the club going. I have to admit that I am almost overwhelmed by success. It is

hard to stay ahead of the YNs.

Thanks to the help of many members of the Alexandria Coin Club and the Washington Numismatic Society, as well as numerous part-time and full-time dealers, I've been able to keep the club supplied so far this year. As you can guess, it is not cheap to keep the club going. I would like to mention the names of all of the people who have helped, but it would double the length of this letter.

I was invited to present the School Coin Club Program to the Club Seminars at the ANA Convention in Chicago last August. It was a good opportunity to exchange ideas, and the standing-room-only crowds seemed to enjoy the discussion. I was sorry that the officers of the ANA

were not interested enough to attend.

I'm always available to discuss YN programs if anyone wants to call me at: (703) 451-7738. If you have excess numismatic items, our high school YNs can use them. Please contact me.

Jesse H. Martin 6119 Bardu Avenue, Springfield, VA 22152

A NOTE FROM PAUL GARLAND

I know you did not ask for comments, but why is VNA acting so discouraged because we have a slow market? At the last show I felt I was at a funeral. I never saw such a dispirited gang. Cheer up, prosperity is just around the corner, with a chicken in every pot. Laugh & the world laughs with you, cry & weep alone. The last three VNA banquets have been a disaster, put more pep into it.

Sincerely,

Paul E. Garland

THE PRIVATE SCRIP OF C.R. BRICKEN

By Jim Ruehrmund

All of the private scrip issued by Richmond merchants during the Civil War ranges from scarce to very rare. So it is with the notes of C.R. Bricken, but, judging from the number of extant varieties, his

issue must have been a fairly substantial one.

Dr. Charles R. Bricken was a physician who served in the 1850's as the Richmond agent and medical examiner of the American Life Insurance & Trust Co. of Philadelphia. According to Ellyson's RICHMOND DIRECTORY for 1856, his office was on the east side of 14th Street between Main and Franklin Streets. The insurance company's ad from the same directory (illustrated) gave the office address as Pearl Street, which was several blocks south of 14th and Main. To complicate things still further,

(WHITE PERSONS AND SLAVES),

AMERICA

CAPITAL, \$500,000. Charter Perpetual granted in 1850.

Charter Perpetual granted in 1850. CAPITAL, \$500,000.

PRINCIPAL OFFICE, S.E. COR. 4TH AND WALNUT STREETS, PHILA.

OFFICE IN RICHMOND, PEARL STREET,

(OPPOSITE J. N. GORDON AND SON),

Insures the lives of White Persons for any length of time, upon the mutual and joint stock systems, and Slaves for one year or for a term of years. Premiums moderate. All losses liberally adjusted.

C. R. BRICKEN, M.D., AGENT AND MEDICAL EXAMINER.

the address on Bricken's scrip is No. 4 Exchange Block. I had long thought that the Exchange Block was connected with the Produce Exchange at 13th and Cary Streets, but apparently this was not the case. The Exchange Block must have been the block on the east side of 14th between Franklin and Main, taking its name from the Exchange Hotel, which occupied a major portion of it. The Pearl Street address in the ad may have been an earlier one which the company neglected to change before the new edition of the directory was published.

Shortly before the Civil War Dr. Bricken gave up both his medical practice and his insurance business and became a liquor dealer. His scrip must have been issued in connection with that business.

The following listing of Bricken's scrip, with catalog numbers is from the VNA publication, VIRGINIA OBSOLETE PAPER MONEY. All are dated Sept. 3, 1861, and, unless otherwise noted, are on white paper.

PR60-080. 5¢, Ceres looking left and holding sickle and grain ears, black print on blue paper and hand signed. Rarity 7.

PR60-080A. 5¢, (illustrated) similar to preceding, but with printed signature. This variety is listed as a counterfeit. Rarity 3.

PR60-081. 5¢, Ceres looking right and standing on pedestal in niche with arched top, as on the City of Richmond 50¢ notes of 1862. Black print and hand signed. Rarity 7.

PR60-081A. 5¢. (illustrated) Similar to preceding, but blue print and printed signatures. Has S.C. Upham imprint, "FAC-SIMILE REBEL SHINPLASTER-SOLD WHOLESALE AND RETAIL BY S.C. UPHAM, 403 CHESTNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA", in bottom margin. Rarity 3.

PR60-082. 15¢, Figure of Ceres looking right and standing on pedestal in niche. Printed in blue or black and hand signed. Rarity 7.

PR60-083. 25¢, Figure of Ceres looking right and standing on pedestal in niche. Printed in blue, and hand signed. Rarity 7.

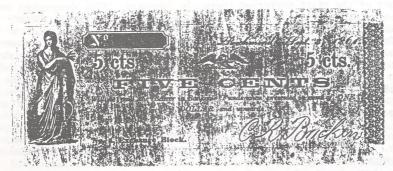
PR60-085. 50¢, Similar to the 25¢ note. Rarity 7.

PR60-095. 15¢, This note, with no vignette, is printed in black on light blue paper and is hand signed. Rarity 7.

Other denominations, such as 10¢, 75¢, \$1, etc. may exist. The Bricken notes carry no imprint, but the first two 5¢ notes, which are markedly different from the others, were possibly the work of MacFarlane & Fergusson, then located at Twelfth and Bank Streets, only about two blocks from Bricken's office. Their imprint does appear on the Manassas Gap Rail Road Company's 1861 scrip (illustrated), for



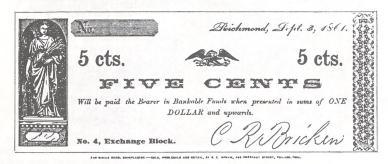
which blue-gray paper and the same unusual left facing figure of Ceres were used. The firm, today J.W. Fergusson & Sons, Inc., is still in business. The present plant, located in South Richmond is a major gravure printer of high quality packaging and labels, and in recent years they have printed a number of issues of U.S. postage stamps. The firm's president, Mr. Russel G. Fergusson mentioned a family tradition that the company printed money of some kind during the Civil War, but no records of the work survive, all having been lost in the evacuation fire of 1865, or in a later fire in the 1920's.



The No. PR60-080A 5ϕ notes with printed signature are an enigma. Listed as counterfeits, they may very well be genuine notes from a later

printing, ordered by Dr. Bricken after he had learned just how much work was involved in signing each note he issued. Making and passing fake 5¢ shinplasters would have hardly been worth the effort, and it seems logical to suppose that a serious counterfeiter would have concentrated on the higher denominations, using hand signed forged signatures. This is by far the commonest of the Bricken notes, and most specimens seen show few signs of circulation. Perhaps they are from unissued stock left over in Bricken's office at the end of the war. Unlike so many others, his office survived the evacuation fire.Another possibility is that they were printed after the war as souvenirs, or for some other purpose now forgotten.

Bricken's notes have the distinction of being the only Richmond private scrip copied by S. C. Upham of Philadelphia, the renowned counterfeiter or facsimile printer (Take your choice). Aside from the printed signature, and the use of blue ink instead of black, Upham's facsimile is a very good copy. Most of the Upham copies found today have had the bottom edge with the imprint clipped off, but this probably was not done during the war. As with the other 5¢ notes, importing and passing them would not have been worth the effort. More likely the



clipping was done thirty or forty years ago to deceive collectors in the days before Upham's copies began to be valued in their own right. In the past few years the Exchange Block address on these notes has led several writers on Upham's work to attribute them to the Exchange Bank. There was, of course, no connection.

During the war poor health kept Bricken out of the Confederate Army, although he was enrolled in the Home Guard. After the war he was one of the partners in the operation of the Richmond Theater, and wrote a number of the plays performed there. In February, 1870, despondent over his ill health, he committed suicide. His obituary in the RICHMOND DISPATCH characterized him as an amiable and popular gentleman.

Dr. Bricken has no descendents, and, aside from the modest marker on his grave in Hollywood Cemetery, there is nothing in Richmond today associated with him. The site of his office is now a parking lot, and both the Richmond Theater and his home at 3rd and Leigh Streets were demolished before the turn of the century. His scrip is his only memorial, but it should suffice to make his name remembered for as long as people continue to collect obsolete paper money.

Sources: 1. VIRGINIA OBSOLETE PAPER MONEY, Jones & Littlefield, VNA, 1992. 2. Ellyson's RICHMOND CITY DIRECTORY, 1856. 3. THE RICHMOND DISPATCH, Feb. 11, 1870.

Many thanks to Mr. Russell Fergusson for information on his firm.

VNA CONVENTION, 1992

As noted in the headline on the front cover, the dates of the 1992 VNA convention and coin show have been changed. The new dates are September 11-13, Friday through Sunday. Dealer setup time will be Thursday afternoon, Sept. 10. The location is unchanged. The convention will be held in Northern Virginia at the Tysons Westpark Hotel, 8401 Westpark Drive, McLean, Va. The hotel is on Leesburg Pike, a short distance west of the Washington, D.C. Beltway.

Rates for bourse tables are:

Regular: \$200 Wall: \$225 Corner: \$250

To obtain contracts and information, contact the Bourse Chairman, Keith Littlefield, 3902 Rose Lane, Annandale, VA 22003; (703) 354-9544

1992 CONVENTION ADS & PATRONS

At its March meeting the VNA Board decided that a separate program will not be issued for the '92 convention. Instead, the program will be incorporated into an expanded July issue of THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST. As we have done in past years, we solicit convention ads from our members and friends. The cost of ads is:

To be listed as a patron costs only \$2.00. Show your support of VNA by taking an ad or by being a patron. Send ads, patron names & checks to: THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST, 712 Westover Road, Richmond, VA 23220

MARYLAND CONVENTION & SHOW

The Maryland State Numismatic Association will hold its 20th annual convention and coin show June 19-21, at Festival Hall in Baltimore, Md. This is always a great show with a large bourse, exhibits, educational programs, etc., so plan to attend. For information on tables, write to Bourse Chairman; Paul R. Singleton, P.O. Box 894, Annandale, VA 22003

VA PENINSULA CLUB BANQUET

The Va. Peninsula Coin Club will hold its Awards and Installation of Officers Banquet on Saturday, 16 May. The new VPCC officers are: President Norman Strock, Vice Pres. Dr. Robert Dail, Secretary Treasurer Mervyn Reynolds, Sgt. at Arms Stephen Harvey and board members John Behnken, C.A. Lindsay, Sr., John Jurbala and James Ross.

The theme of this year's banquet is "Going on Forty". The club was organized in 1953 at Fort Eustis, Va., and has been active ever since. The VPCC has been a member of ANA since 1954, and is also a long standing member of VNA. Of the twenty five charter members, one, Merv Reynolds, is still active. Many of the charter members were military, and have moved to other areas. The club is trying to contact past members and friends to invite them to attend this special event.

Additional information can be obtained from VPCC Secretary, Merv Reynolds, 14405, Old Courthouse Way, Newport News, VA 23502. He can be

reached by telephone at (804) 874-6921.

CATALOG OF HARD RUBBER TOKENS RELEASED

With the publication of David E. Schenkman's latest book, MERCHANT TOKENS OF HARD RUBBER AND SIMILAR COMPOSITIONS, another chapter in the history of nineteenth century exonumia has been written. Tokens struck in hard rubber, and those pieces manufactured in celluloid, fiber, and other non-metallic compositions from the 1860s to the early 1900s, comprise a series about which little is known, and even less has been written. Now in one comprehensive volume, the culmination of 25 years' research, these fascinating tokens have been cataloged.

Printed in large format with a high quality cloth binding, the 208 page book lists 773 tokens issued by merchants from 34 states plus Washington, D.C. and Indian Territory. A comprehensive introductory section includes a wealth of information on the tokens and their manufacturers. The extensively annotated and profusely illustrated catalog is arranged in alphabetical order by city and state. There is

a price guide and a complete index.

The cataloging of a series as diverse as this presents a formidable challenge. David E. Schenkman, a professional numismatist specializing it tokens and medals, is well qualified for the task. His prolific writings have been published in THE NUMISMATIST, TAMS JOURNAL, COIN WORLD, NUMISMATIC NEWS, THE COPPERHEAD COURIER, SCRIP TALK, THE FARE BOX, and also in this magazine. A past president of both the Civil War Token Society and the Token and Medal Society, he presently serves as editor of the TAMS JOURNAL. He is also a long-time member of VNA. He is the author of the following books, each the definitive work on its subject: MARYLAND MERCHANT TOKENS; VIRGINIA TOKENS; MERCHANT TOKENS OF WASHINGTON, D.C.; CIVIL WAR SUTLER TOKENS; EXPLOSIVE CONTROL TOKENS and BIMETALLIC TRADE TOKENS OF THE UNITED STATES.

Retail price of the new book is \$49.50. It can be ordered from Jade House Publications, P.O. Box 265 (Dept.VN) Bryantown, MD 20617. Mail orders should include \$2.25 shipping charges, and Maryland residents must add state sales tax. A specially bound edition, limited to 25 numbered and signed copies, and priced at \$85.00 is also offered.

REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM COINS AND CURRENCY

by Howard A. Daniel, III

Published by & available from:
The Southeast Asian Treasury
P.O. Box 626, Dun Loring, VA 22027-0626
160 pages, card cover, Price \$29.95 postpaid in USA

What the late Ward Smith did for Chinese currency, VNA member Howard Daniel has now done for the Republic of Viet Nam. His new book lists all known coins and banknotes of this short-lived governmen, together with POW camp overprints on notes and propaganda leaflets with note designs. Each major type and variety is covered on a detail page which gives extensive data on designs, printers, specimen notes, replacement notes, counterfeits, etc. There are plates illustrating both sides of each item, and current prices are given for six grades of preservation. The book also has an extensive introduction, a history section, a glossary and a complete index. Howard's book is both a "must have" for those who collect Viet Nam material, and a magnet which will undoubtedly attract new collectors to this intriguing and still available series.

NEWS OF OUR CLUBS

ALEXANDRIA COIN CLUB. Meets at 8:00 PM on the 3rd.Wednesday of each month at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St, Alexandria, Va.

ELUE RIDGE COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 pm on the last Tuesday of each month at 105 North 1st St. in Charlottesville.

KENT COIN CLUB. No news. Please send in the day, time & place of your meetings, plus accounts of your activities for publication.

MONTICELLO COIN CLUB. Meets on the third Wednesday of each month at The Bonanza Restaurant, 1525 East Rio Rd., Charlottesville, Va.

PIEDMONT COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 PM on the 4th Tuesday of each month at the YMCA in Collinsville, VA.

RICHMOND COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 PM the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Signet Bank Bldg., 7 North 8th St. in Richmond. In April the club voted to take a $\frac{1}{2}$ page ad in the convention issue; 12 signed up as patrons and Jim Ruehrmund spoke on the New York Waterworks Notes.

 ${\tt ROANOKE}$ VALLEY COIN CLUB. Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Roanoke City Library on Jefferson St.

SALEM COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month in Room B of the Salem Civic Center at 7:30 PM.

SHENANDOAH VALLEY COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month in Fishersville at the Mary Switzer Bldg., Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center, at 7:30 PM. On March 14-15 they held their annual show at the Waynesboro Outlet Mall, an excellent and well attended event, at which they hosted the meeting of the VNA board.

SOUTHSIDE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION. Meets monthly at 7:30 PM on the 4th Monday in the community room at Cavalier Square Shopping Center in Hopewell.

TIDEWATER COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd. Wednesday each month at the Lake Wright Motor Hotel on Northampton Blvd., Va. Beach.

WASHINGTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY. Meets at the Washington Congregational Church, 3526 Massachusetts Ave, N.W., Washington, D.C. on 3rd Tuesdays. In March program Jerry Grzenda spoke on German Commemorative Coinage.

WILLIAMSBURG COIN CLUB. Meets at 7 PM on the 2nd Friday of each month at Mortimer's Locksmith Shop in Norge, Va. Take Norge exit from I-64. At the March meeting Page Mann gave a review of the new book TOKENS AND MEDALS, A GUIDE TO THE IDENTIFICATION AND VALUES OF UNITED STATES EXONUMIA, by Stephen P. Alpert and Lawrence E. Elman.

VIRGINIA PENINSULA COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 PM on the 3rd Monday of each month at the War Memorial Museum in Newport News. At the March meeting they held a donated auction sale to raise money for the annual banquet, to be held in May (see notice on page 9).

ANCIENT NUMISMATIC SOC. OF WASHINGTON. Meets in the homes of members. For info.write to W.E. McGovern, P.O.Box 2495, Gaithersburg, MD 20886.

VIRGINIA OBSOLETE PAPER MONEY

Edited by Richard H. Jones and Keith E. Littlefield Published by the Virginia Numismatic Association

VNA's new 500 page book, VIRGINIA OBSOLETE PAPER MONEY is now available. Except for colonial notes and national bank notes, all known Virginia obsolete notes from 1770 to 1880 are listed, with many new entries, including material from the American Bank Note Co. Archives.

Separate sections are devoted to the following classes of issues: Virginia Treasury Notes / City and Town Notes / Private Scrip County and Sheriff Notes / Notes of all Virginia Banks

Each note is identified by a catalog number, accompanied by a rarity and price guide. There are about 2000 half size illustrations.

The new VIRGINIA OBSOLETE PAPER MONEY is available in two forms:

- Hardbound (ISBN 1-878029-00-2) @ \$57.25 (incl. tax & shipping.by UPS)
- Unbound (ISBN 1-878029-01-0), either plain or drilled for three ring binder @ \$52.00 (includes sales tax and shipping by UPS.)

A dealer discount of 40% is given on orders for three or more books Virginia dealers please furnish tax exemption number with order. Orders for books, and requests for information should be sent to: Va. Numismatic Assoc., 3902 Rose Lane, Annandale, VA 22003

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Gerald A. Schmidt

ANA L.M. 715

SHOW CALENDAR

May 16-17	Raleigh, NC Mission Valley Inn	RALEIGH COIN CLUB
May 31	Towson, MD Quality Inn, York Rd.	TOWSON COIN SHOW
June 19-21	Baltimore, MD Festival Hall	MARYLAND STATE NUMISMATIC ASSOC.
June 19-21	Memphis, TN Cook Convention Center	INTERNATIONAL PAPER MONEY SHOW
June 28	Towson, MD Quality Inn, York Rd.	TOWSON COIN SHOW
July 26	Towson, MD Quality Inn, York Rd.	TOWSON COIN SHOW
Aug. 12-16	Orlando, FL Orange Co. Convention Ctr.	AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION
Sept.11-13	McLean, VA (NOTE DATE CHANGE) Westpark Hotel	VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION
Sept.24-27	Chattanooga, TN (NOTE DATE CHANGE) Quality Inn, East Ridge	BLUE RIDGE NUMISMATIC ASSOC.

SHOW CALENDAR POLICY

The Show Calendar lists both club and commercial shows in Virginia and neighboring states, plus ANA and MANA events wherever held.Others will be listed on request. All notices received will be published, except for shows that will have occurred prior to publication of the next issue.

To have your show listed, send a notice to:

The Editor,712 Westover Rd., Richmond, VA 23220; TEL:804-358-0525

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Robert J. Balas

Ronald J. Mirr

8503 Patterson Avenue, Suite 8 Richmond, Virginia 23229 (804) 741-8143



THE MONEY STORE

FOR SALE: PAPER MEMORABILIA from the War Between the States. Currency, Bonds, Letters, Documents. Send long SASE (52¢ postage), or \$1.00 without SASE for price list.

Dorsey A. Howard, P.O. Box 418, Chesterfield, VA 23832-0418

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VNA, 515 Pinehurst Avenue, Colonial Heights, VA 23834

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Send your ad of 30 words or less (not including name & address) to:
Page Mann, P.O. Box 1684, Williamsburg, VA 23187-1684

BYNUM E. SMITH

1925-1992

Bynum E. Smith of Richmond, Va., a retired Virginia Power principal engineer, died on April 1 following a heart operation. Although he was a distinguished electrical engineer, it was through his numismatic activities that we in VNA came to know him. Bynum was a member of ANA, VNA and of the Richmond Coin Club, of which he served as president in 1981 and 1982. He was a familiar figure at our shows through Marbys, a coin business in which he was a partner, and his genial presence will be missed at our future gatherings.

The Virginia Numismatic Association extends deepest sympathy to his wife, Jane, his sons, Mark and Victor, and his daughter, Marsha.



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THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

All mail relating to the Virginia Numismatist should be addressed to:
 Jim Ruehrmund, Editor
 712 Westover Road
 Richmond, Virginia 23220

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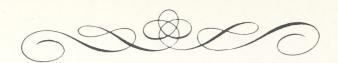


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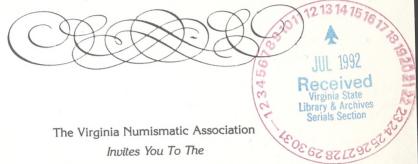
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THE YIRGINIA NUMISMATIST



34th ANNUAL CONVENTION and COIN SHOW



September 11, 12, 13 - 1992

TYSONS WESTPARK HOTEL McLean, Virginia

VOLUME 28 NUMBER 4 JULY 1992

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The deadline for all copy is the first of the month preceding month of issue (e.g., April 1st for May 10th issue).

THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

VOLUME 28 NUMBER 4 JULY 1992

The VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST is the Official Publication of The Virginia Numismatic Association, Inc. and is published six times each year. Articles and items for publication are welcomed and solicited. All six issues are mailed from Hampton, Virginia at the Third Class Postal Rate and cannot be forwarded, so be sure and send us your change of address.

All mail relating to The Virginia Numismatist and Advertising therein should be directed to Jim Ruehrmund, Editor, 712 Westover Road, Richmond, Va. 23220.

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER



This issue finds us anticipating the annual convention and show. The dates had to be changed to September 11, 12 and 13, 1992 due to a conflict in show schedules; we have to be flexible in these matters. Fortunately the members and dealers understand the necessary adjustments to the schedule, and continue to support VNA.

I expect that you have already noticed that we are trying something new this year by combining the Convention Program with this issue of THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST. It will be given out at the show, as programs have been, and will, I hope, make non-member

visitors more aware of VNA. It will also reduce the cost of printing.

As in past years, your 1992 Election Ballot is enclosed with this issue of the magazine. We are electing the Sergeant-at Arms, and two members of the Board of Directors. The candidates have volunteered their time and effort to work on your behalf, and I urge you to mark your ballot and send it in promptly to the Secretary.

Your hotel reservation card is also enclosed with this issue. Room rates are quite reasonable, so plan to come for the entire weekend and make a mini-vacation of it. There'll be lots of numismatic opportunities, both tangible and intangible, as you explore the bourse, and meet others who share your interests.

It is sad to report the death of yet another long-time VNA member, Mr. Ernest B. Thrasher, Sr.,of Roanoke, who died on May 9, 1992 at the age of 101. You will recall that we observed his 100th birthday two years ago. The entire membership of VNA joins me in expressing our sympathy to the Thrasher family.

I hope to see you in McLean this September.

Sincerely, Jim Harvey President

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Junior Member				 					\$2.00
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PLEASE SEND TO: Keith Littlefield, Sec.-Treas. 3902 Rose Lane, Annandale, Virginia 22003

VNA CONVENTION NEWS

The VNA Convention and Coin Show, our 34th, will be held this year in Northern Virginia. The dates are Friday, September 11 through Sunday, September 13, 1992. The location, the same as in '88 and '89, is the Tysons Westpark Hotel at 8401 Westpark Drive, McLean, Virginia. To get there from I-95, take I-495 (the Washington, D.C. Beltway) west to exit 10 West, Leesburg Pike (Rt.7). Go 1.5 miles on Leesburg Pike, and turn right before the 6th stoplight.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Your hotel reservation card is enclosed with this issue of THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST. Send it in promptly so you'll be sure of getting a room, and don't forget to indicate that you are attending the VNA Convention. The room rate, \$52.00 per night, single or double.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

The annual business meeting of the Virginia Numismatic Association will be held at 11:00 AM on Saturday, Sept. 12, 1992 at the Tysons Westpark Hotel, McLean, Virginia. Room location will be announced. Certification of officer elections, plans for the 1993 convention, and other items of business will be considered. The meeting will be open to the public.

BOURSE

The bourse will open to the public at 10 a.m. on all three days. Admission is free. The dealers will be offering a great variety of coins, tokens, paper money, medals, etc. No matter what you may be seeking for your collection, you will probably find it here. There'll be material for every taste and budget. Don't fail to visit all of the tables, and always ask if you 'n't see what you're looking for. The dealers will often have brought more material than they have room to display. The dealers will also be buying, so bring along your surplus items to sell or trade.

No insurance will be carried on either bourse materials or exhibits, but guard service will be maintained 24 hours a day in these two areas for the duration of the show.

BOURSE TABLES

Rates for Bourse tables are:

Regular: \$200 Wall: \$225 Corner: \$250

Dealer setup time is 5:00-8:30 PM, Thursday, 10 Sept. For contracts, or further information, contact Bourse Chairman Keith Littlefield, 3902 Rose Lane, Annandale, VA 22003, telephone (703) 354-9544.

EXHIBITS

Write to Exhibit Chairman James M. Beard, 317 Miller St., Lexington, VA 24450, or call him at (703) 463-5186 to obtain exhibit forms and reserve space for your exhibit. Mounting an exhibit entails a great deal of work, but it also gives a lot of satisfaction, so plan to put in an exhibit in 1992. For some pointers on preparing an exhibit, read Duane McSmith's article on page 11 of this issue.

Exhibitors are requested to bring their own display cases; however, VNA does have a limited number of cases, which will be assigned on a first come first served basis. If you are going to need a case, you'd

better let Jim Beard know as early as you possibly can.

No insurance will be carried on exhibits, or bourse materials but guard service will be maintained 24 hours a day in these two areas for the duration of the show.

CONVENTION PROGRAM

This year, as an innovation, a separate convention program will not be issued. Instead, the program is contained in this expanded issue of THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST. VNA extends sincere thanks to its members and friends, who, as advertisers and patrons, have supported this year's convention.

ANNUAL BANQUET

The banquet will be held Saturday evening following a cash bar social hour. After dinner the newly elected officers will be installed, awards will be presented, and we will hear an interesting address by our featured speaker. The number of banquet seats is limited, so be sure to purchase your dinner tickets at the time you register for the convention.

OUR DINNER SPEAKER

Our banquet speaker for 1992 is Mr. Stephen R. Taylor of Dover, Delaware. Steve is a past president of the American Numismatic Association, and a member of numerous other numismatic organizations, including VNA. A full biography with picture appears on page 8.

RAG PICKERS GET TOGETHER

The annual meeting of the "Rag Pickers" will be held Saturday evening following the banquet. Location will be announced. This group has no officers, rules or dues. There's no formal agenda, but it's guaranteed to be entertaining. Many big names in the paper money field will be there, both collectors and dealers, and the discussions are always stimulating. If you have any interest at all in paper money you should make it a point to attend.

VNA PUBLICATIONS

The new book VIRGINIA OBSOLETE PAPER MONEY, and other VNA publications on paper money, tokens, etc. will be offered for sale at the registration desk. Buy them at the show and save on the shipping charge.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership applications will be available at the registration desk. New members who join at the convention are paid up through the end of 1993, so urge your non-member friends to sign up. Members can pay their 1993 dues at the registration desk, which will save VNA the trouble and expense of sending a bill.

COME AND HAVE FUN

Come to Northern Virginia in September for a weekend of numismatic fun and fellowship. Bring your family along, too. The collectors will, no doubt, want to spend most of their time at the bourse, but there's no need for their families to sit around and be bored. The Washington area has more than enough museums, historic sites and other cultural attractions to keep the non-collectors occupied for an entire weekend, and then some. For those who would rather skip the culture, the area has a great variety of exciting shopping malls, and Potomac Mills, an East Coast shopping Mecca, is just a short distance south on I-95. There's something here for everyone, so do come and enjoy it.

ERNEST B. THRASHER, SR. 1890-1992

The Virginia Numismatic Association sadly reports the loss of its oldest member, Mr. Ernest B. Thrasher, Sr., of Roanoke, on May 9, 1992, just six weeks before his 102nd birthday. He had been retired from the Treasury Dept. of the Norfolk & Western Railway Co. for over thirty years, and was VNA Member No.90, and Member No. 66 of the Salem Coin Club. Like his close friend, the late Charlie Affleck, Mr. Thrasher was a veteran collector of obsolete currency, especially Virginia currency, and his enthusiasm for the hobby continued unabated to the end of his long life.

The Virginia Numismatic Association extends deepest sympathy to his two sons, Ernest B. Thrasher, Jr. and William J. Thrasher, his eight grandchildren and his eleven great grandchildren.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS, 1992

The Nominating Committee has reported the following slate of candidates for offices whose current terms expire in September 1992:

For Sergeant-at-Arms......Robert W. Bunn, Newport News, Virginia

For Board of Directors (VOTE FOR TWO)
Robert M. New, Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina
Michael J. Rost, Richmond, Virginia

All members are urged to exercise their right to vote. Your ballot is enclosed with this issue of the magazine. Please mark it and return it promptly to the Secretary, Keith Littlefield, 3902 Rose Lane, Annandale, VA 22003

BLUE RIDGE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION 33RD ANNUAL CONVENTION & COIN SHOW

The Blue Ridge Numismatic Association will hold its thirty third annual convention and coin show from Friday, Sept. 24 through Sunday, Sept. 27 1992 at the Quality Inn, East Ridge, Chattanooga, Tennessee. To get there, take Exit 1 from I-75 at Chattanooga. For information on tables, write to Ruth Armstrong, PO Box 80052, Chattanooga, TN 37411, or call her at (404) 861-9039.

APPLICANTS FOR MEMBERSHIP

34th ANNUAL CONVENTION

of the

VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday, September 10

5:00-8:30 PM - Bourse Room Open to Dealers Only

Friday, September 11

9:00 AM - Bourse Room Open to Dealers 10:00 AM - Bourse Room Open to General Public 6:00 PM - Bourse Room closed to All

Saturday, September 12

9:00 AM - Bourse Room Open to Dealers

10:00 AM - Bourse Room Open to General Public

11:00 AM - Meeting of VNA Board

6:00 PM - Bourse Room Closed to All

6:00 PM - Happy Hour

7:00 PM - Annual Banquet

Awards and Installation of Officers Guest Speaker

AFTER BANQUET - "Rag Pickers" Get Together

Sunday, September 13

9:00 AM - Bourse Room Open to Dealers

10:00 AM - Bourse Room Open to General Public

5:00 PM - Bourse Closes - Convention Closes

BANQUET PROGRAM

INVOCATION

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONLes Winners
BANQUET
PRESENTATION OF EXHIBIT AWARDSJames M. Beard
PRESENTATION OF AWARDSLes Winners
PRESENTATION OF WALT MASON AWARDLen Harsel
INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS
INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKERLes Winners
GUEST SPEAKERStephen R. Taylor

IN MEMORIAM

THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION MOURNS
THE PASSING OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS
DURING THE PAST YEAR

L. FRANK CLUVERIUS 1905 - 1991

> CHARLES E. ECHOLS 1924 - 1991

BYNUM E. SMITH 1925 - 1992

ERNEST B. THRASHER, SR. 1890 - 1992



Our After Dinner Speaker

VNA is indeed fortunate to have as our 1992 banquet speaker Mr. Stephen R. Taylor, Past President of the American Numismatic Association. In Steve Taylor's case, a formal biography is hardly necessary, as he is well known to most of us. He has belonged to VNA for many years, and is a former member of the VNA Board of Directors. It is a rare VNA convention that does not find him in attendance, and at any major show you happen to attend, you'll probably run into him. However, for the record, here are a few facts about him.

Steve hails from Dover, Delaware, and is a retired banker. His vocation must have led to his avocation, for he is an enthusiastic collector of currency. He is also an active and successful exhibitor, and was the 1978 recipient of the ANA Howland Wood Memorial Award.

Steve is a member of thirty five U.S. and Canadian numismatic organizations. In addition to his presidency of ANA, he has served as president of MANA, GSNA, the Kent Coin Club of Dover Delaware, and the Milford, Delaware, Stamp and Coin Club. Steve's numerous numismatic honors include the Numismatic News Numismatic Ambassador Award, MANA's Person of the Year Award, and PAN's Frank Gasparro Award.

It is a pleasure to welcome Steve Taylor as our banquet speaker, and we look forward to hearing his address.

VNA THANKS THE FOLLOWING PATRONS FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THE 1992 CONVENTION

Ginnie Aldridge David Armstrong Steve & Yoko Bennett Earl Blaisdell R.J. Brennan Earle & Lilian Brooks Rob Buckey Bob Bunn Joe & Jean Bush Randy & Faye Clarke Mary Grace Coalter Thomas Cooley Bob Custer Robert N. Dail Lou & Audrey Doucet Ben Duncan Ed Efford Sam & Ann Fortner Don Frederick Barbara Hannah Billy Hannah Frank Hannah Marge Hannah Len Harsel James M. Harvey, Sr. James M. Harvey, Jr. Steve & Barbara Harvey Frank R. Hatch Del Haymaker Ray Haymaker

James A Johnson, Jr.

Charles H. Johnston John Jurbala Brian Kritt Hugh Lipscomb Ellen Littlefield Katie Littlefield Sam Littlefield Ron Mirr & Bob Balas Bob & Myrt New Clay Perdue Howard C. Perdue Joe Pinard Bill Porter Mal & Emily Powell Ashlev B. Power Mery Reynolds Mike Rost Jessica E. Ruehrmund Shauna R. Ruehrmund Sophie S. Ruehrmund John Sanderson Jerry & Ruthie Schmidt Guy R. Swanson Ted & Evie Tarr Thomas D. Taylor Louise Campbell Tickle Bob Walter Reed Walton Bill Wilkerson Chad Young Don & Marcella Zauche

VNA MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

So far, 46 Directory entries have been received. If you want to be in it, send the data to Jim Ruehrmund, 712 Westover Rd., Richmond, VA 23220. We hope to have the Directory ready in time for the convention.



WHO ARE YOU?

Suppose the train you are on collides with another, or the building you are in burns, or you meet with some other serious accident; would they know who you are? Our Badge—indestructible—is the only sure and safe means of identification. Particularly applicable to women and children. Badge and service complete for 25c., good for one year. Send 25c. for a badge and service to-day; to-morrow may be too late. Bank references.



COMMERCIAL INDEMNITY CO., Dept. Y. Wainwright Building, ST.LOUIS, MO.

This ad is from the March, 1904, issue of CONFEDERATE VETERAN magazine.

PAYNE'S MONEY

Young J.P. Cannon served as a private in the 27th Alabama Infantry Regiment from 1861 to 1865, and kept a journal of his wartime experiences and adventures. After the war he became a doctor, and moved to Tennessee. In the late 1890s his journal was published serially by the Washington, D.C. TRIBUNE, which brought it out in book form in 1900 under the title INSIDE OF REBELDOM: THE DAILY LIFE OF A PRIVATE IN THE CONFEDERATE ARMY.

In the spring of 1863, while the 27th Alabama was a part of the garrison at Port Hudson, Louisiana, Cannon wrote the following account of the interesting financial activities of one of his fellow privates.

AN EYE TO BUSINESS

April 1. "Payne money" has been in circulation in this part of the army for several months, but I haven't been fortunate enough to get a bill of it until to-day, which came in the way of making change. Although Payne belongs to our regiment, he seems to prefer to "circulate" his money "away from home", which accounts for the scarcity of it with us. "R.E. Payne the Banker" is well known all over the army, and he is not half as "green" as he looks or as one would suppose a man to be who has lived 40 years in the Sand Mountains of north Alabama. He is a great forager and trader; buys and sells anything a soldier can use, from a pint of Louisiana rum to a blanket or suit of clothes. He has been trafficking in this way ever since he joined the army, but was accumulating wealth too slowly for a man of his business capacity, so he conceived the idea of adding a banking business, and accordingly got a printer to print several thousand dollars of "money" in denominations ranging from 50¢ to \$10. It reads "Redeemable in Confederate money when presented in sums of \$20 and upwards". Signed R.E. Payne.

Whether he buys or sells he invariably makes change with his own money when he can, and as anything which "promises to pay" is current, it is seldom refused. He has turned the bulk of it into Confederate, and is now just "rolling in wealth". When we move from here he will be compelled to buy a pack mule to carry his money.

Cannon makes no further mention of Payne, and we are left to wonder what happened at the end of April when the regiment left Port Hudson to join Gen. Braxton Bragg's army in the field. No doubt Payne quickly sold off his merchandise, and departed with a small fortune in Confederate notes. The bulk of his scrip must have remained in Port Hudson, for, as Cannon observed, he had already managed to palm off most of it on his comrades in arms in other regiments.

The 27th Alabama's departure from Port Hudson was timely, for at the end of May the place was closely besieged by Federal forces. It fell on July 9, and the garrison became prisoners of war. What became of the Payne notes? Did any of the Confederates manage to hang on to any? Did any of the Yankees acquire some as souvenirs, and do any survive today? All inquiries on this have, so far, turned up nothing, but perhaps we will find out some day.

The story is not complete without a final mention of Payne. He survived the war, was discharged in May, 1865, and returned to his home in Gum Pond, Alabama. His service record shows that he was 73 years old at the time, far older than Cannon thought him to be. He must have been a hardy old soul indeed.

A WORD OR TWO ABOUT EXHIBITS

By Duane McSmith

Sharing your interest in coins with other collectors is one of the pleasures of being a coin collector. We meet in clubs and discuss coinage, and at times the program chairman calls upon us to put on a program at the club on some aspect of our collection. For some it is a real chore to talk to a room full of people, while the same person would be very comfortable with one or two close friends looking at a few examples that are of special interest. Sharing your interest is

what makes the hobby grow.

You can achieve the ultimate sharing of your numismatic knowledge by exhibiting at coin shows. This has many advantages, since it will reach many more people, and you can do your planning, study and arrangement at your own pace in private. One of the greatest "drawing cards" of a major coin show is its exhibits. Many collectors are timid about putting their coins on display because they feel that there are others with more expensive and rare examples, but if you look at the way exhibits are judged, you will see that you do have something worthwhile to contribute. Of course, there are some variations in the judging point system, but, in general, this is how it works. Figuring on a total of 100 points, the judging will be made on the following point system:

> NUMISMATIC INFORMATION conveyed to the viewer...30 points. ARRANGEMENT NEATNESS AND EYE APPEAL...30 points. ORIGINALITY of exhibit...15 points. COMPLETENESS of material...15 points. CONDITION of material...5 points. RARITY AND/OR VALUE of material...5 points.

This all adds up to 100 points, and the usual method used by the judges is to start each exhibit out with 100 points, and subtract points in each category where they think the exhibit does not merit

the full quota.

Now if we study this point system, we can see that the greatest emphasis is placed on things that you have, or that are available to you at very little cost. Think about your collection, and those individual items that have the greatest interest to you. Most likely you find them interesting because you have some information about them. With just a little research you can confirm and expand this information to make it a 30 point winner in Numismatic Information.

It does help neatness and eye appeal if you have artistic ability, but it is not imperative. The key is don't get so wrapped up in your support material that it will detract from your display rather than support it. The reason for the display is to highlight some aspect of your collection; it is not necessary to have your exhibit look like a

Christmas tree at a mall.

To win points in originality takes some fresh thinking. Quite often an exhibitor will display a beautiful series of coins in their Capitol holders with little or no support material. This is a nice way to show viewers that you have spent a lot of time and perhaps money to amass such a collection, but it imparts little information. Every show has two or three such exhibits, and they usually do not impress the judges.

Completeness is a sure thing IF you title your exhibit in accordance with what you have in the case. You are the one that sets the parameters by the title you choose. If you have "some" choice early U.S.

type coins on display and title the exhibit "Early U.S. Type Coins", your completeness will be judged against ALL U.S. type coins.

Condition of material is only 5 points, and a loss in this category should not have a real impact on your scores. Display the best you have and put your best effort on other aspects of your exhibit. Remember that the judges are numismatists and they will grade condition in accordance with what is valuable, not whether or not it is in proof condition.

Rarity and/or value is much like condition, in that it will not make or break your display. Go with what you have and be proud of it. With the proper support material make the viewer understand your interest in this item. As you can see from the judging procedures, it is possible for a collector with less valuable or rare material to come out well ahead of a display in Capitol holders worth many more dollars.

Choose an item or subject that interests YOU, and show why in the numismatic information you present. Try to do it in a neat and attractive way. Don't try to copy some other person's exhibit, and you are on your way to boosting the coin hobby with a winning exhibit.

Ed. Note. This article was developed from a talk presented by the author to both the Virginia Peninsula and Williamsburg Coin Clubs. Duane McSmith is a past president of VNA, and currently serves on the Board of Directors.

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Edited by Richard H. Jones and Keith E. Littlefield Published by the Virginia Numismatic Association

VNA's new book, VIRGINIA OBSOLETE PAPER MONEY is now available. This 500 page volume work will list all known Virginia obsolete notes from 1770 to 1880, except for Va. colonial notes and national bank notes. Separate sections are devoted to the following classes of issues: Virginia Treasury Notes

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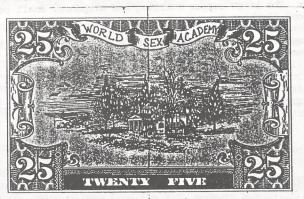
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THE SIDEWALKS (AND STREETS) OF NEW YORK

East side, west side,
All around the town,
The place is covered with litter,
Mayor Dinkens wears a frown.
Boys and girls together,
Me and Mamie O'Rourke
Trip over all that carnal cash
On the sidewalks of New York.

An intriguing tidbit of news headed "New York files lawsuit in bid to clean up streets" appeared in the Richmond papers last August. It seems that the city had problems with litter in the form of handbills made to resemble money, and advertising a dial-a-porn service. It was described as a "blizzard of carnal cash", which Mayor David Dinkens called an "offensive form of littering that's aroused great public outcry". The city filed a lawsuit against two New Jersey firms, Peak Communications and Espic Communications, whose employees allegedly dumped tons of the bills on New York streets and sidewalks.

It might have been a problem for the City of New York, but for me it represented a great opportunity to add something both novel and characteristic of our late 20th century culture to my collection of advertising notes, or "funny money". I called Doug Ball in New York, and asked him to get one of the bills for me, but when he came to Richmond a few weeks later for the VNA convention he reported that by the time he went to look for some, the bills had all been swept up and carted off to the landfill. I can't imagine why a skilled professional numismatist like Doug B. failed to recognize the numismatic importance of the bills when they were lying about in profusion; perhaps it was because they weren't Confederate. However, on a later trip to Richmond he handed me one he had found in the street a few days earlier. The reverse of this note of the "World Sex Academy" is illustrated below.



The obverse, unfortunately, cannot be illustrated, as it is far too raunchy to appear in this, or for that matter, in any publication that has to maintain a reputation for respectability.

By now the whole incident is probably forgotten. I've not seen any of the notes offered at shows, but rest assured, with the bulk of the issue trashed, these ridiculous things will eventually be offered as rarities, and at ridiculous prices, too.

In 1688 King James II of Great Britain was deposed and replaced by King William and Queen Mary. James fled to France, and in March 1689, with French assistance, he landed in Ireland in a bid to regain the throne. Having no silver, he financed his operations by issuing a token coinage in bronze. Much of the metal was obtained by melting down old cannons, and the coins are therefore known as Gun Money.

The initial issue consisted of sixpences, shillings and half crowns, all bearing the portrait of James II. Later on, crowns were issued, which show the king on horseback. Most of them are overstruck on half



Gun Money Sixpence June, 1689

crowns. When the supply of metal started to run out, the coins were reduced in size.

A curious feature of this coinage is that all denominations except the crown carry the month of issue, as well as the as the year. In the Old Style Calendar then in use, the New Year began on March 25th.; coins dated March, 1689, and ones dated March, 1690, were all struck in the same month.

James apparently planned to redeem his coins with silver month by month, once his cause had prevailed, but in this he was disappointed. In July, 1690, his army was routed at the Battle of the Boyne, and James soon returned to France, where he died in 1701. His last Gun Money coins are dat-

ed October, 1690.

After the final Jacobean defeat, Gun Money was permitted to continue in circulation for a time as small change, in accordance with the the following decree:

"The large half-crown of copper money, together with the crown pieces of like metal and weight, lately stamp'd, shall pass at one penny sterling. The small half-crown shall pass at 3 farthings. The large copper shilling and sixpence, shall pass each at one farthing."

Although there are rare varieties, these coins are still plentiful, and collectible specimens are not difficult to obtain.

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ELUE RIDGE COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 pm on the last Tuesday of each month at 105 North 1st St. in Charlottesville.

KENT COIN CLUB. No news. Please send in the day, time & place of your meetings, plus accounts of your activities for publication.

MONTICELLO COIN CLUB. Meets on the third Wednesday of each month at The Bonanza Restaurant, 1525 East Rio Rd., Charlottesville, Va.

PIEDMONT COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 PM on the 4th Tuesday of each month at the YMCA in Collinsville, VA.

RICHMOND COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 PM the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Signet Bank Bldg., 7 North 8th St. in Richmond. The May program was a coin quiz game. The RCC now boasts 33 VNA convention patrons.

SALEM COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month in Room B of the Salem Civic Center at 7:30 PM.

SHENANDOAH VALLEY COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month in Fishersville at the Mary Switzer Bldg., Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center, at 7:30 PM.

SOUTHSIDE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION. Meets monthly at 7:30 PM on the 4th Monday in the community room at Cavalier Square Shopping Center in Hopewell.

TIDEWATER COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd. Wednesday each month at the Lake Wright Motor Hotel on Northampton Blvd., Va. Beach.

VIRGINIA PENINSULA COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 PM on the 3rd Monday of each month at the War Memorial Museum in Newport News. The May program was by Duane McSmith, on preparing an exhibit. Duane also shared it with the rest of us by writing it up as an article (see p. 11). VPCC's annual banquet was held on 16 May in Hampton, with Jim Ross officiating as MC. New club officers were installed; Richard Ivy, Chairman of the Yorktown Historical Commission, spoke on Yorktown's history, and the club's Outstanding Member Plaque was presented to Duane McSmith. Nine VPCC members have signed up as VNA convention patrons.

WASHINGTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY. Meets at the Washington Congregational Church, 3526 Massachusetts Ave, N.W., Washington, D.C. on 3rd Tuesdays. The club does not meet in July and August. At the May meeting Norman Brand presented a program entitled " An Introduction to Ancient Coins in Numismatics", using slides from the ANS. Members exhibited a wide variety of material, and they also held a raffle.

WILLIAMSBURG COIN CLUB. Meets at 7 PM on the 2nd Friday of each month at Mortimer's Locksmith Shop in Norge, Va. Take Norge exit from I-64. The May program, on mounting an exhibit, was by Duane McSmith.

ANCIENT NUMISMATIC SOC. OF WASHINGTON. Meets in the homes of members. For info.write to W.E. McGovern, P.O.Box 2495, Gaithersburg, MD 20886.

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July 17-19	New Carrollton, MD Sheraton Hotel	METRO WASHIGTON NUMISMATIC ASSOC.
July 26	Towson, MD Quality Inn, York Road	TOWSON COIN SHOW
Aug. 1-2	Vienna, VA Vienna Community Center	NORTHERN VA COIN CLUB SHOW
Aug. 12-16	Orlando, FL Orange Co. Convention Ctr.	AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION
Aug. 30	Towson, MD Quality Inn, York Road	TOWSON COIN SHOW
Sept.11-13	McLean, VA (NOTE DATE CHANGE) Westpark Hotel	VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION
Sept.24-27	Chattanooga, TN (NOTE DATE CHANGE) Quality Inn, East Ridge	BLUE RIDGE NUMISMATIC ASSOC.
Sept.27	Towson, MD Quality Inn, York Road	TOWSON COIN SHOW
Oct. 2-4	Raleigh, NC Mission Valley Inn	NORTH CAROLINA NUMISMATIC ASSOC.
Oct.16-18	Myerstown, PA Lantern Lodge Motor Inn	MIDDLE ATLANTIC NUMISMATIC ASSOC.
Nov. 7-8	Vienna, VA Vienna Community Center	NORTHERN VA COIN CLUB SHOW

SHOW CALENDAR POLICY

The Show Calendar lists both club and commercial shows in Virginia and neighboring states, plus ANA and MANA events wherever held. Other Shows will be listed on request; send a notice to:
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VOLUME 28 NUMBER 5 SEPTEMBER 1992

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The deadline for all copy is the first of the month preceding month of issue (e.g., April 1st for May 10th issue).

THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

VOLUME 28 NUMBER 5 SEPTEMBER 1992

The VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST is the Official Publication of The Virginia Numismatic Association, Inc. and is published six times each year. Articles and items for publication are welcomed and solicited. All six issues are mailed from Hampton, Virginia at the Third Class Postal Rate and cannot be forwarded, so be sure and send us your change of address.

All mail relating to The Virginia Numismatist and Advertising therein should be directed to Jim Ruehrmund, Editor, 712 Westover Road, Richmond, Va. 23220.

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER



During the past year I have not commented on some of the more controversial topics that I have encountered as president of the VNA. However, I feel compelled to open discussions on the following items to spark a much needed debate on the future direction of this organization.

We must decide whether we are going to grow or remain at the present level of participation. If we do not grow, in effect, we will not be able to maintain our present status, we will decline. To effect growth

we will have to change the way we presently do business. The annual show and convention has to be planned two to three years in advance, and the facilities have to accommodate our budget and potential growth.

Ways must be found to reduce the convention and show costs to members and dealers. An admission charge to non members and/or a corporate sponsor and "read my lips" an increase in membership dues should be considered. Funding for advertising is essential for a successful show and the use of all possible free publicity is a must. A volunteer is sorely needed to pursue this area fully.

A "theme" would be beneficial in publicizing the annual show, Obsolete Banknotes, or some other specialty area as a motif will make our show and convention more visible.

It is most important that we get the word out that ours is a vibrant hobby that is more affordable and more potentially rewarding to the collector in comparison to most other hobbies.

The above opinions are mine alone, but the basic ideas come from several sources, with whom I agree. I will bring this up for discussion at the next board meeting, and expect to have some of the issues resolved by the end of 1992. I call on all VNA members to express their opinions and ideas, let your feelings on these and other matters be known.

Sincerely,

Jim Harvey President

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MEET OUR ADVERTISERS. 4

MODERN COIN, INC.

This is the fourth of the series profiles of dealers whose ads appear in THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST. VNA is deeply grateful for their support, which makes possible the publication of this magazine. We hope that our members will, in turn, remember them when searching for that special item to add to their collections

Bill Wilkerson, the genial proprietor of Modern Coin, Inc., and another native Richmonder, started collecting coins at the age of six, following in the footsteps of his older brother. After graduation from John Marshall High School, he served in the Army from 1952 to 1955, and attended the Richmond Professional Institute (now Virginia Commonwealth University) from 1955 to 1958. After working for a couple of years in the record business, he opened his first coin shop at 109 West Grace Street in downtown Richmond in 1960, which makes him Virginia's long-



The Modern Coin staff Left to Right, Guy DeWolf, Bill Wilkerson and Kitty Hubbard

est established coin dealer. In 1963 he moved to West Cary Street, remaining there until 1966, when he came back downtown to the Central Fidelity Bank Building. He stayed there for nine years, moving one more time in 1975 a few doors west to his own building, and present location at 212 East Grace Street.

Modern Coin deals primarily in U.S. coins and currency; they also buy and sell jewelry, bullion and sterling silver flatware. In addition, Guy DeWolf of the Williams-burg Coin and Stamp Comaintains an office in the Modern Coin building which is open on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, dealing in stamps and and sports cards of all kinds.

Bill is a member of ANA (No. 30320), MANA, VNA (since 1961), and the Richmond Coin Club. He is one of the two Virginia dealers holding membership in the Professional Numismatists Guild, which he joined in 1974.

Modern Coin has been a regular advertiser in this magazine since 1988, and a frequent advertiser in the VNA Convention Program for many yeats before that. They have over the years been generous donors of material for door prizes.

Folks say that no one goes downtown in Richmond anymore, but that's not strictly true. Modern Coin still draws a loyal clientele downtown; Why not join them? You'll be glad you did.

WELL DOGGONE!

Another piece of dogged reporting by Sophie S. Ruehrmund

Readers may recall that in an article which appeared in these pages just one year ago, I advocated the introduction of coin designs featuring dogs. You can imagine my delight when The June issue of THE NUMISMATIST arrived a few weeks back, and Jim pointed out to me an article therein announcing an issue of dog coins by the government of



Gibraltar. I don't know whether or not the people in Gibraltar saw my article, but I like to think that they did, and that I can claim at least a small tidbit of credit for bringing about this momentous development.

The new coins, a gold bullion series called "Royals", are struck in 24 carat gold by the Pobjoy Mint and come in 1, 1/2, 1/5, 1/10 and 1/25 ounce sizes. The obverse

has a portrait of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, and the reverse will feature a different breed of dog each year. The first issue, dated 1991, honors the Welsh corgi, a breed much esteemed by Queen Elizabeth, who has a pack of them. I've never met a corqi, but am pleased to see them honored on coins. Even though they hobnob with royalty, I'll bet that they haven't lost the common touch and are still every bit as doggy as I am. What's more, I haven't seen any dirt about them in the tabloids, except for a few reports of dog fights.

The dog for the 1992 issue has not been announced officially, but I've learned from an inside source that it will be the cocker spaniel. I do hope that they'll get around to depicting a schnauzer some day, one with uncropped ears like mine. If they do, I'll get Jim to buy me one. Even if they don't, I'll still be content just to see us dogs

finally have our day in the world of numismatics.

There is one curious aspect in this business. Jim, who has visited Gibraltar a number of times, told me that the only animals he saw there were not dogs, but some curious critters called Barbary apes. Far be it from me to question the motives of the Gibraltar authorities, but I suspect that they settled on dogs because more people can relate to them than to apes of any kind, even though they are your distant kin.



The new dog coins will be sold by coin and bullion dealers all over the country. The distributor is MTB Banking Corp. at 90 Broad St., New York, NY 10004-2290. If you want more information, write to them, or call them at (800) 535-7481.

I can't run a photo of me this time. I was badly chewed up recently by a gang of big mean dogs. A lot of my fur had to be shaved off so I'm not very photogenic just now, although I've made a full recovery.

I've never appeared on a coin or medal, but am proud to say that I am on my family's special flag which is depicted here. They fly it on holidays, feast days and other special occasions.

WHAT ARE MY COINS WORTH ???

By Tom V. Warfel

What are my coins worth?

To a dealer and to a prospective seller more misunderstandings and hard feelings have been caused by this question.

The author, who has been collecting for almost forty years, feels he has a background to help the seller understand the position of the dealer and can also see the view "from the other side of the table".

Perhaps an analogy which both sides are familiar with would help-even at the risk of being overworked. A car/coin comparison will be used.

IDENTIFY your product.

Seller: "What's my silver dollar worth?"
Dealer: "What is it--year, mint, condition?"

Seller: "It's at home. It's real old but real good."

Dealer: (Thinking) "@***##%%!"

Consider: Would you be willing to buy an "old car" that's "good"? This means it probably has four bald tires, an out-of-tune motor and paint holding the rust together. However, it does run.

A better way to put it is: "I have a 1921 silver dollar that looks like it was made yesterday--what would you give me for it?"

Although this is better, a dealer will still ask, "What mint? Is it a Morgan or Peace?"

In other words, to use our analogy, is it a Chevy or a Ford? A Fairlane or a Monte Carlo?

The best way for the seller to identify the coin is to say, "What would you pay for my uncirculated Peace dollar? Here it is."

(Would you be willing to buy a car without inspecting it? Well

neither would a coin dealer be willing to buy without inspection.)

CONDITION. An area in which problems arise is in "condition"—the
physical looks of a coin. Even experts disagree on this. A minute
difference in the "grade" (condition) of a coin can make a difference
of several thousand dollars.

A Model T Ford stored in a barn for 40 years may be worth \$2000. If it is restored to top condition it may be worth \$13,000 or more.

(Do NOT attempt to clean a coin or "restore" it!!)

AGE. "My coin is older than that one—why isn't it worth more? Supply and demand is the answer. Some ancient coins over 2000 years old may sell for \$30 and some US coins 10 years old may sell for \$200. A 1955 Marcedes Gull-Wing is worth more than a 65 year old Model T-by about \$100,000.

VALUE: Know the market.

The coin market has ups and downs as does the rest of the economy. Silver reached \$50 per oz. in 1980. Today (1991) silver is only worth about \$4.00 per oz. Rare cars were bought back at auction recently—they did not bring half the expected prices. If your coins are bullion coins (worth only metal prices) the market changes daily. Don't expect an offer made in July to hold for December. Before you sell, learn about prices. Check coin publications—some have lists for U.S. coins published weekly or monthly. However, these are only guides—as is the "Blue Book" for cars. Local conditions may account for prices: convertibles sell better in California than in North Dakota.

Study the ads. Note if prices are "buy" or "sell". If you are at a show, study prices of material similar to what you have to sell. If a dealer has a price of \$275 on a 1909—S VDB in "fine" condition you wouldn't expect him to pay \$300 for yours in "good" condition.

If the prices seem too low, look around does the dealer have several of the types of coins you have for sale? This might indicate the market is down on this material. (Would a dealer offer much on your 1985 Ford if he has 15 on the lot?)

Does the dealer have a specialty in your material? Don't go to a dealer of ancient coins to sell a U.S. gold piece. (Crysler dealers

won't deal as well with a Chevy as Chevy dealers)

CONSIDERATION. Please remember the dealer is in a <u>business</u>. He has to make a profit in order to buy. A coin has to be priced, packaged, transported, displayed. All of this takes time and money. Contrary to common thought, shows at malls, hotels, etc. cost money for security and table fees—these are not furnished free by the malls, etc. The dealer may have to drive 50-300 miles for a show. He has expenses in lodging and food as well as his "rent" and transportation.

If, after being sold, there is no buyer for your coin at <u>this</u> show, it may have to go to several shows before it is sold—and the expense

of that coin goes up.

(Many times, cars which won't sell are put up at "dealer auctions"

just to move them for more productive inventory.)

Most dealers at malls, etc. are in the coin business as part-time merchants. Therefore they have fewer opportunities to buy and sell than a person who has a shop. However, their overhead is as high as a full-time dealer due to table fees and travel expenses.

A dealer is only human. After doing 20-30 shows per year for 10 years, he is NOT interested in hearing about the coin you spent 20 years ago and is now worth \$5000--especially since he hears this story five times per show--and heard it just before you walked in.

The above has been written for persons who know a little something about their merchandise. Many persons who visit the "bourses" (coin shows) have no idea what they have.

For these persons the best advice is to educate yourself. As you wouldn't go looking for a car without knowing what you want, don't buy (or sell) coins without knowing something about them.

Talk to a collector, pick up a book or magazine about them, visit a

club. Learn grading. Know what mint-marks are.

A dealer is more inclined to talk to someone who can say, "I have 10 Indians from the 1870's in Fine; the 1877 is Extra Fine. What would you give for them—here they are."

Think of the car--would <u>you</u> be interested in buying, "My old Plymouth at home,"? What about "It"s a 1957 Fury in show-room condition

with four new tires. It's outside."

Be reasonable—you wouldn't expect a car salesman to price your car for free: don't expect a dealer to spend an hour appraising your coins for free. He may have lost a sale while looking at them and then only hear, "I just wanted to know what they are worth." If an appraisal is needed, expect to pay for it. (Most dealers will waive the fee if the collection is sold to them.) To expect a dealer to spend time just for your curiosity is an imposition on his time and knowledge.

If you have taken this much time to read and study this article, perhaps you might <u>now</u> want to buy and not sell. You may have found a new hobby: Coin Collecting. A little more study and you may become a

NUMISMATIST.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT: Many thanks to the author, Mr. Tom V. Warfel, and to the Elkhart Coin Club, Inc. of Indiana for their permission to reprint this article. Thanks also to Mr. Al Boulanger of Fort Wayne. Indiana, who handed me a copy at the MANA Show last October. J.C.R.



PENINSULA CLUB'S NEW OFFICERS

Here are the new officers of the Virginia Peninsula Coin Club, installed at the annual banquet in May. New President Norman Strock was unable to be there, but seated before the club banner, from left to right, are: Sec.-Treas. Merv Reynolds, Vice Pres. Dr. Robert Dail and Sgt.-at-Arms Stephen Harvey. There wasn't room enough for this in the July issue, so here it is a couple of months late.

(SHELL) FISH STORY

The following item of news is reprinted from THE RICHMOND DAILY WHIG for Thursday, March 26, 1868:

"AN ANCIENT COIN - A few days since a well known citizen of a neighboring county found in the under shell of an oyster taken from the York River a Louis d'Or dated 1573. The bivalve was of course dumb as to the manner in which the coin became embedded in its shell. If there are any more oysters like this in York River, we will take a cart load at current rates."

The WHIG'S editor was mistaken in one particular. If dated 1573, the coin couldn't have been a Louis d'Or, which wasn't issued until 1640. No doubt it was an Ecu of some kind. The coin's present location is unknown. One thing is certain, a find like this is unlikely to be repeated. The York River once teemed with oysters, but in recent years the virus diseases MSX and Dermo have practically annihilated them. Proposals to restock the river with a strain of virus resistant Japanese oysters have been vehemently opposed by those who fear that the oriental mollusks will take over the river, and then proceed to buy up all the waterfront property.

SAM UPHAM'S ENVELOPES

In his excellent article, "UPHAM'S FAC-SIMILES", in the November 1988 issue of BANK NOTE REPORTER, Robert S. Larkin mentioned the existence of a Civil War patriotic cover bearing Upham's imprint, with the address 310 Chestnut St., Philadelphia. Actually, Upham produced a number of varieties of topical envelopes. Just how many is uncertain, but the George W. Ball Collection in the Eleanor S. Brokenborough library of the Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond, Virginia, contains fourteen different specimens, presented in 1987 by the Hon. George W. Ball, the father of Dr. Doug Ball. Selected examples are illustrated through the courtesy of Mr. Guy Swanson, the Director of the library.

The Museum's envelopes, all unused, are of cream colored paper, and average 5% inches wide by 3 1/8 inches high. Some are printed in black, some in dark purple, and some in blue. Upham's line of merchandise included stationery, and the production and sale of such items was a normal part of his business.

Hundreds of varieties of topical envelopes, some fervently patriotic, some satirical, were made and sold in both North and South during the early months of the war, but is seems that few were used. Most examples encountered today are unused, and postally used ones are quite rare.

As can be seen in the illustrations, all of Upham's envelopes are of a satirical nature. Demand for them must have dropped off drastically after July, 1861, when the First Battle of Manassas (called Bull Run in the North) forcefully demonstrated that the Rebels were not a laughing matter. Production probably ceased by the late summer of 1861 sometime before Upham moved to new premises at 403 Chestnut Street. It was from there that he issued his famous currency facsimiles, but that is another story.



King of the Cotton plant-nation, on his throne.

S. C. Upham, 310 Chestnut St.

A Blower



Gen. McClellan.—I say, Wise, put that thing up; everybody knows you're a good blower, but you can't fight!

S. C. Upham, 310 Chestnut St.



Jeff. Davis.—Please ma'am, my big brother won't let me alone.

Goddess of Liberty.—Well it serves you right, why don't you mind your Urcle Ale. Just wait until McClellan comes in contact with you, he will give you such a sound thrashing, you'll never complain again.

Upham, 310 chestnut St. i hila.



J. D. arrives in Washington from the "Sunny South."

J. D. departs from Washington, for a warmer climate

S. C. Upham, 310 Chestnut Street.



A rebel attack on pickin's.

S. C. Upham, 310 Chestnut St.

A chance for his life.



Jeff. can't play Yankee Doodle to save his life.

Upham, 310 Chestnut St. Phila.

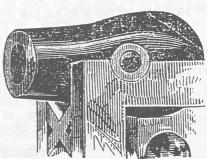
Zouave.-"Uncle Abe will be glad to see you."



Jeff's March on Washington.

His courage kept up to the "sticking point."

S. C. Upham, 310 Chestnut St.



Our "Commissioner" to the Confederate States.

8. C. Uphum, 310 Chestnut Street, I hila.

FOR SALE

VIRGINIA & WEST VIRGINIA NATIONALS

\frac{\text{VIRGINIA}}{1929 \$10 I Planters Nat. of Danville #1985 VF	\$48.00
1929 \$10 I Nat. Bank of Petersburg #3515 Fine	\$35.00 375.00 275.00 118.00 250.00 110.00 195.00 \$85.00 145.00 115.00 150.00 220.00 105.00
1302 420 12 Idinets & Referances of Winerester #0004 VI	120.00
WEST VIRGINIA	
1929 \$10 II Citizens Nat. of Martinsburg #4811 XF. 1929 \$10 I Wellsburg Nat. of Wellsburg #1884 VG/F. 1929 \$10 I FNB of West Union #6424 F/VF. 1929 \$20 I FNB of Moundsville #5717 F/VF. 1882 \$5 BB Nat. Exchange Bnk. of Wheeling #5164 VG. 1882 \$10 VB FNB of Grafton #2445 XF. 1902 \$5 PB FNB of Huntington #3106 F/VF. 1902 \$5 PB FNB of Huntington #3106 F/VF. 1902 \$5 PB FNB of Romney #9766 VF. 1902 \$5 PB Union Nat of Sistersville #5028 CU. 1902 \$10 RS FNB of Parkersburg #180 XF. 1902 \$10 PB Old Nat. of Martinsburg #6283 VF. 1902 \$10 PB Citizens Nat. of Philippi #6377 VG/F. 1902 \$10 PB FNB of Philippi #6302 VG. 1902 \$10 PB FNB & TC of Elm Grove #8983 XF. 1902 \$10 PB FNB & TC of Elm Grove #8983 XF. 1902 \$10 PB FNB of St. Mary's #5226 F/VF. 1902 \$10 PB FNB of New Martinsburg #4811 VF. 1902 \$10 PB FNB of New Martinsville #5266 F/VF. 1902 \$10 PB FNB of New Martinsville #5266 F/VF. 1902 \$10 PB FNB of New Martinsville #5266 F/VF. 1902 \$10 PB FNB of New Martinsville #5266 F/VF. 1902 \$10 PB FNB of New Martinsville #5266 F/VF. 1902 \$10 PB FNB of New Martinsville #5266 F/VF. 1902 \$10 PB FNB of New Martinsville #5266 F/VF. 1902 \$20 PB FNAT. Summers in Hinton #7998 VF. 1902 \$20 PB Ansted Nat. of Ansted #8904 VF. 1902 \$20 PB Commercial Nat. of Huntington #4607 CU. 1902 \$20 PB Union Nat. of Sistersville # 5028 XF.	100.00 200.00 115.00 125.00 340.00 \$50.00 250.00 185.00 195.00 125.00 125.00 125.00 125.00 125.00 125.00 125.00 125.00 125.00 125.00 125.00 125.00 125.00 125.00 125.00

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TWO NEW WORLD COIN BOOKS BY KROUSE

A GUIDE BOOK TO MEXICAN COINS, 1822 TO DATE by Theodore V. Buttrey & Clyde Hubbard 320 pg., 5 x $7\frac{1}{2}$ in., softcover, \$14.95 plus \$2.50 shipping, U.S.

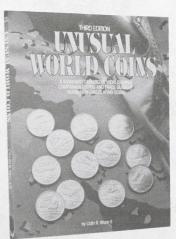
UNUSUAL WORLD COINS, 3rd. ED. by Colin R. Bruce II 256 pg., $8\frac{1}{2}$ x 11 in., softbound, \$19.95 plus \$2.50 shipping, U.S.

The coinage of independent Mexico offers a collecting field of enormous scope. With fourteen mints operating at one time or another, and with assayer's initials, as well as dates to swell the number of



varieties, it is a series that can provide a lifetime of numismatic pleasure. Both serious and casual collectors need a good catalog, and the new 6th edition of A GUIDE BOOK TO MEXICAN COINS amply fills the bill. It gives detailed chronological listings of all post-independence Mexican coins, including 19th century state and federal copper issues, new circulating proof and commemorative issues through 1991, plus newly discovered varieties of earlier circulating and pattern types. Market values are given in up to four grades of preservation, and there are hundreds of full-size illustrations.

With the new edition of UNUSUAL WORLD COINS, by Colin B. Bruce II, collectors will finally be able to obtain the facts about a lot of the world's more unusual non-circulating, coin-like issues. Included are pieces struck by government mints, issues of ephemeral governments like the Empire of Trebizond and Australia's Hutt River Province, unofficial and privately prepared patterns, and fantasy pieces of all



kinds. Metals range all the way from lead to platinum. In this companion volume to the Krause STANDARD CATALOG OF WORLD COINS there are more than 2400 listings, with 2420 illustrations, covering a time period of over 320 years, from the mid 17th century through the new Desert Storm issues of 1991.

Coins are arranged alphabetically according to the authority responsible for their issue.

Current market values are given together with weight, fineness and actual precious metal weight. The new Bruce "X" numbering system is used, which is cross referenced with the Krause/Mishler (K/M) system.

VIRGINIA OBSOLETE PAPER MONEY

Edited by Richard H. Jones and Keith E. Littlefield Published by the Virginia Numismatic Association

VNA's new book, VIRGINIA OBSOLETE PAPER MONEY is now available. This 500 page volume work will list all known Virginia obsolete notes from 1770 to 1880, except for Va. colonial notes and national bank notes. Separate sections are devoted to the following classes of issues: Virginia Treasury Notes

City and Town Notes

County and Sheriff Notes

Private Scrip

Notes of all Virginia Banks (chartered, savings, private, etc.)

Each note is identified by a catalog number, accompanied by a rarity

and price guide. There are about 2000 half size illustrations.

The new VIRGINIA OBSOLETE PAPER MONEY is available in two forms:

- Hardbound (ISBN 1-878029-00-2) @ \$55.00, includes tax & UPS shipment.
- Unbound (ISBN 1-878029-01-0), either plain or drilled for three ring binder @ \$50.00, includes sales tax and shipping by UPS.

A dealer discount of 40% is given on orders for three or more books Virginia dealers please furnish your tax exemption number with order. Make checks payable to: VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

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NEWS OF OUR CLUBS

ALEXANDRIA COIN CLUB. Meets at 8:00 PM on the 3rd.Wednesday of each month at the Hammond Jr. High School, 4646 Seminary Rd., Alexandria, VA.

ELUE RIDGE COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 pm on the last Tuesday of each month at 105 North 1st St. in Charlottesville, VA.

KENT COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 pm on the second Thursday of each month at WSFS Bank, State & Reed Streets, Dover, Delaware.

MONTICELLO COIN CLUB. Meets on the third Wednesday of each month at The Bonanza Restaurant, 1525 East Rio Rd., Charlottesville, VA.

PIEDMONT COIN CLUB. Meets at $7:00\ PM$ on the 4th Tuesday of each month at the YMCA in Collinsville, VA.

RICHMOND COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 PM the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Signet Bank Bldg., 7 North 8th St. in Richmond. In July Dave Armstrong spoke on token collecting, and displayed examples of British, Canadian and German tokens.

SALEM COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month in Room B of the Salem Civic Center at 7:30 PM. The SCC will hold its fall show Oct. 24 & 25 at 710 Apperson Dr.Salem. Bourse Chairman is Emmett G. Yonce, 2040 Roanoke Rd., Dalesville, VA 24083; phone (703) 992-5331.

SHENANDOAH VALLEY COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month in Fishersville at the Mary Switzer Bldg., Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center, at $7:30\ PM.$

SOUTHSIDE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION. Meets monthly at 7:30 PM on the 4th Monday in the community room at Cavalier Square Shopping Center in Hopewell.

TIDEWATER COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd. Wednesday each month at the Lake Wright Motor Hotel on Northampton Blvd., Va. Beach.

WASHINGTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY. Meets at the Washington Congregational Church, 3526 Massachusetts Ave, N.W., Washington, D.C. on 3rd Tuesdays.

WILLIAMSBURG COIN CLUB. Meets at 7 PM on the 2nd Friday of each month at Mortimer's Locksmith Shop in Norge, Va. Take Norge exit from I-64.

VIRGINIA PENINSULA COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 PM on the 3rd Monday of each month at the War Memorial Museum in Newport News. At the June meeting John Gearhart spoke on "Best Buys in Early Silver", a subject in which he is eminently qualified, as shown by his award winning display of 1795 silver dollars at the banquet in May.

ANCIENT NUMISMATIC SOC. OF WASHINGTON. Meets in the homes of members. For info.write to W.E. McGovern, P.O.Box 2495, Gaithersburg, MD 20886.

NOTICE

Persons in the Richmond area who wish to purchase copies of VIRGINIA OBSOLETE PAPER MONEY can pick them up directly from Jim Ruehrmund, and save the cost of shipping. Give Jim a call at 358-0525.



BILL WILKERSON PRESIDENT



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SHOW CALENDAR

Sept.11-13	McLean, VA Westpark Hotel	VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION
Sept.24-27	Chattanooga, TN Quality Inn, East Ridge	BLUE RIDGE NUMISMATIC ASSOC.
Sept.27	Towson, MD Quality Inn, York Road	TOWSON COIN SHOW
Oct. 2-4	Raleigh, NC Mission Valley Inn	NORTH CAROLINA NUMISMATIC ASSOC.
Oct. 11	Towson, MD Quality Inn, York Road	TOWSON COIN SHOW
Oct.16-18	Myerstown, PA Lantern Lodge Motor Inn	MIDDLE ATLANTIC NUMISMATIC ASSOC.
Oct.17-18	Greensboro, NC American Legion Hall	PIEDMONT TRIAD
Oct.24-25	Salem, VA American Legion Bldg.	SALEM COIN CLUB
Nov. 7-8	Vienna, VA Vienna Community Center	NORTHERN VA COIN CLUB SHOW
Nov.14-15	Fayetteville, NC Holiday Inn Bordeaux	CAPE FEAR COIN CLUB

SHOW CALENDAR POLICY

The Show Calendar lists both club and commercial shows in Virginia and neighboring states, plus ANA and MANA events wherever held. Other Shows will be listed on request. If you wish to have your show listed, please let VNA know as soon as you have set the dates, so it can be run in several issues. Send the notice to:
The Editor,712 Westover Rd., Richmond, VA 23220;TEL:804-358-0525

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Ronald J. Mirr

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THE MONEY STORE

FOR SALE: PAPER MEMORABILIA from the War Between the States. Currency, Bonds, Letters, Documents. Send long SASE (52¢ postage), or \$1.00 without SASE for price list.

Dorsey A. Howard, P.O. Box 418, Chesterfield, VA 23832-0418

WANTED: A Sept. 1968 VNA Fall Show promotion note reprint of the obsolete \$2 Norfolk, Va. note. Will trade.

W.P. Anderson, 923 Franklin St., Winchester, VA 22601

WANTED: Encased coins from all states. Describe and price.

Ginnie Aldridge, 515 Pinehurst Ave. Colonial Heights, VA 23834

WANTED: Notes with full S.C. UPHAM imprint.

Sam Roakes, 281 Rustic Ridge Drive, Kennesaw, GA 30144

WOODEN NICKELS from the '91 VNA conventions are still available.

Price 50¢ each plus SASE. Order from:

VNA, 515 Pinehurst Avenue, Colonial Heights, VA 23834

FOR SALE: Circulated type sets from Canada, Great Britain and French Indo-China. Not complete and no gold.

Page Mann, PO Box 1684, Williamsburg, VA/23187-1684; (804) 220-2077. WANTED: Virginia tokens, merchant, coal, transportation and parking,

for my personal collection. Describe and price.

Elvin B. Miller, PO Box 366. Topping, VA 23169

WANTED: B.P.O.E. (Elks) & I.B.P.O.E.W. exonumia. Will buy or trade.

J.M. Boswell, P.O. Box 428, Gambrills, MD 21054-0428

WANTED: Tokens from anywhere issued by fruit tree nursery or individual nurseryman, also tokens picturing apple tree or recognizable fruit tree. Write to:

David Consolvo, Route 1, Box 310, Covesville, VA 22931

WANTED: Confederate Interim Depositary receipts and funding Certificates issued in Virginia (Pearisburg, Dublin, Christiansburg, Fredericksbiurg, Lewisburg, Charlottesville, Scottsville)

J. Tracy Walker III, RFD 5, Box 258, Charlottesville, VA 22901

FOR SALE. Coins & Banknotes from around the world. Want lists especially welcome.

Paul Neumann, PO Box 416, Potts Point 2011, Sydney, NSW, Australia

MONEY STORE RULES

Jim Ruehrmund has taken over the Money Store from Page Mann. Send your ads to Jim at: 712 Westover Road, Richmond, VA 23220

- Ads will be run for two issues, and may be renewed

- Ads must be limited to 30 words, not including name, address, etc.

- Ads must be typed or printed.

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The deadline for all copy is the first of the month preceding month of issue (e.g., April 1st for May 10th issue).

THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

VOLUME 28 NUMBER 6 NOVEMBER 1992

The VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST is the Official Publication of The Virginia Numismatic Association, Inc. and is published six times each year. Articles and items for publication are welcomed and solicited. All six issues are mailed from Hampton, Virginia at the Third Class Postal Rate and cannot be forwarded, so be sure and send us your change of address.

All mail relating to The Virginia Numismatist and Advertising therein should be directed to Jim Ruehrmund, Editor, 712 Westover Road, Richmond, Va. 23220.

Direct all other correspondence about membership, address changes, etc. to the secretarytreasurer, Keith Littlefield, 3902 Rose Lane, Annandale, Virginia 22003.

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER



The 1992 VNA show and convention was one of the best shows I have ever attended. Maybe not in a fiscal sense, but in every other way. The room was set up to convey a cozy atmosphere, the displays were magnificent, attitudes were upbeat, and everything seemed to work well.

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Speaking of work, the "usual crew" of great ladies, Marge Beard, Myrt Ney, Marge Hannah, and Dell Haymaker, worked untiringly during the entire weekend, with help from their respective spouses, to assure that no detail was overlooked regarding book sales,

registration, VNA information, etc.

Many thanks to all involved, with special thanks to Les Winners, Burnette Anderson, Keith Littlefield, and Steve Taylor for supporting us year after year.

I expect that some of you have already heard that VNA has lost another member, Mr. M. Clay Perdue of Richmond, who was murdered on September 19th during a breakin at his home. I have searched in vain for words to express the sorrow and outrage that all of us feel at this barbaric act, but can find none. Our hearts go out to Mrs.Perdue and to their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren in their tragic loss. We will always remember Clay with affection and respect.

Sincerely,

Jim Harvey President

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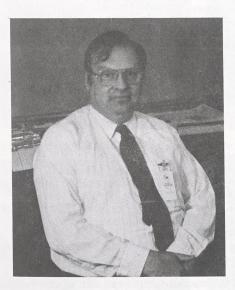
MEET OUR ADVERTISERS. 5

R.M. SMYTHE & Co., Inc.

This is the fifth in the profile series of the dealers whose ads in THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST help to finance its publication. VNA sincerely appreciates their patronage, and we hope that VNA members will, in turn, extend patronage to them.

R.M. Smythe & Co., an advertiser in this magazine since 1983 is familiar to most VNA members, especially the rag pickers among us. Their well stocked table is always a feature attraction at our annual coin show, and their auction sales are the top of the line. The firm has been around for quite a while. Founded in 1880, their principal business for many years was dealing and research in obsolete securities.

R.M. Smythe is headed by Chairman John Herzog and President Diana Herzog, who acquired the firm in 1980. They have developed and expanded the company's business in financial memorabilia, especially obsolete stock certificates and bonds for collectors. Their involvement with numismatics dates from 1985 when they acquired the Numismatic and Antiquarian Services Corporation of America (NASCA), founded in 1976 by the Hon. George W. Ball, his son Dr. Douglas B. Ball and others. Doug Ball, a veteran VNA member, became Smythe's director of research. Located in Rockville Centre, Long Island, N.Y., NASCA did a retail business, and conducted periodic auction sales.



Dr. Douglas B. Ball R.M Smythe's Director of Research, at the 1992 VNA Convention

Their primary emphasis was in the field of paper money, but they handled plenty of quality coins as well. Many VNA members will recall their sale in '83 of the Charles Affleck collection, an event memorable for the quality and quantity of the material offered, as well as for the tremendous enthusiasm it generated.

R.M. Smythe has continued the NASCA tradition of great currency sales. Who among us can ever forget their sale at our 1987 convention of Doug Ball's fabulous collection of Confederate material?

When it comes to quality and variety of material offered, accuracy in cataloging and efficiency and integrity in general, Smythe's auction sales are

unexcelled. Paper money collectors who have never participated are missing out on a prime source.

R.M. Smythe & Co. has long been a good friend to VNA; we thank them for their support, and wish them continued success in the future.

VNA's 34th ANNUAL CONVENTION

We had a great convention this year, accompanied by perfect weather. Attendance was about 620, and 42 dealers were on hand. They had plenty

of good stuff to offer, and sales were brisk.

The registration desk was capably managed by Marge Beard again this year. Marge has handled this job for quite a few years, and VNA and all its members owe her a rousing vote of thanks. She was assisted by Jim Beard, Bob and Myrt New and Dell Haymaker. Yes, the Haymakers were back with us this year. Dell has made a good recovery from her stroke, and, although she has to use a wheelchair, her spirit is undimmed

VNA is also indebted to columnist Jimmy Packard of Richmond for publicizing the show in his column in the RICHMOND TIMES DISPATCH.

Burnett Anderson of Krause Publications was there with free samples of Krause publications. He brought along a substantial supply, and at the show's end was pleased to find that none remained to take home.

Les Winners VNA's man in Mississippi, and our faithful Emcee presided over the Saturday evening banquet with his usual aplomb. The hotel served us a tasty dinner which included roast beef. The price of \$20.00 seems reasonable for these times, but nevertheless we lost money on it. After dinner, door prizes, donated by Don Apte, Bob Cornell, Claud Murphy, Don Frederick, Tom Moore and Jerry Schmidt were distributed, and exhibit awards were presented as follows:

OUTSTANDING AWARDS

Richard Coltrane, Jr. Mints of the Ottoman Empire Dell Haymaker . Primitive Money Ray Haymaker. Five Black Registers Duane McSmith. The 1956D Cent. Bob New. The Waitangi Crown

CHARLES AFFLECK AWARD
Jim Ruehrmund. Hidden Messages

BEST OF SHOW Herbert Hall. Canadian Gold

Richard Jones entered as a non-competitive exhibit the copper plate for the notes of the Bank of Martinsburg in Virginia.

Following the exhibit awards, Len Harsel presented the Walt Mason Award for numismatic achievement, to Col. Jesse H. Martin of Springfield, Va. for his services in encouraging young collectors.

On completion of the awards, the following newly elected officers were installed by Les Winners: Sergeant-at-Arms Robert Bunn, and

directors Bob New and Mike Rost.

Les Winners introduced guest speaker Steve Taylor, past president of ANA, who presented a fascinating talk on paper money errors, which he illustrated with slides.

After dinner eighteen Rag Pickers held their annual meeting. Doug Ball, Corbett Davis, Grover Criswell, Len Harsel, Richard Jones, Keith Littlefield, Claud and Judith Murphy, Jim Sazama, Steve Taylor and others, in the longest session ever (it didn't end until midnight) discussed the newly discovered Buffalo Forge, Va. scrip, S.C. Upham facsimilies, the recent production in Tennessee of true color copies of the C.S.A. Montgomery notes (all 4 denominations), and Richard Jones's long search for the Martinsburg printing plate.

Our 1993 Convention and show will be held again at the Westpark,

the 3rd or 4th weekend in September. Hope to see you there.



Dell & Ray at the Registration Desk



Rag Pickers Picking Rags



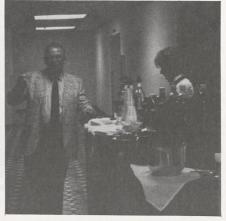
Steve Taylor's Address



Looking for Bargains



Browsing on the Bourse



Happy Hour!

MEADOR CLAY PERDUE

1914 - 1992

His many friends will be both shocked and saddened to learn of the tragic death of M. Clay Perdue of Richmond, Virginia, on Saturday, September 19, 1992. Clay was brutally murdered in his home by an intruder, who had broken in to rob him. News reports indicate that very little was taken, and at the time of this writing, the case is still unsolved.

Clay Perdue, a native of Franklin County, Virginia, came to Richmond in the 1940s, and was employed as a quality control technician with the E.I. DuPont Corp. He retired in 1990. His collecting interests were wide ranging, and not confined solely to numismatics, for he was also a noted collector of political memorabilia. Clay was a member of the American Numismatic Association, The Virginia Numismatic Association. the Token and Medal Society and the Richmond Coin Club. Over and above these, he will be remembered as a kind and considerate gentleman and warm friend.

The Virginia Numismatic Association extends deepest sympathy to his wife, Irene, his daughter and son-in-law, Mary P. and Robert Kough, his son and daughter-in-law, Kenneth W. and Jennie A. Perdue his grand-children and great-grandchildren. They have lost a loving husband and parent; we have lost a dear friend.

SHENANDOAH VALLEY SPRING SHOW

The Shenandoah Valley Coin Club will hold its annual spring coin show March 13-14, 1993 at the Waynesboro Outlet Village, Waynesboro, Va. The table fee is \$60.00. For contracts or further information contact Show Chairman Clarence A. Armstrong, 610 C St., Staunton, VA 24401, or call him at (703) 886-1096. This is always a fine show, so mark your calendar now, and plan to be there.

APPLICANTS FOR MEMBERSHIP

The following individuals have applied for membership in the Virginia Numismatic Association, and will become members within 20 days from the mailing of this notice unless some adverse reaction is received, in which case the matter will be acted upon by the Board of Directors.

Applicant	Sponsor
William Anderson, Burke, Virginia	Marjorie Beard
Brandon Scott Blake, Petersburg, Virginia	Steve Bennett
William J. Davros, Oakton, Virginia	Keith Littlefield
Clay Everhart, Reston, Virginia	Marjorie Beard
Thomas H. Henning, Haymarket, Virginia	Bob New
Paul Neumann, Sydney, N.S.W., Australia	Jim Ruehrmund
Joseph G. Patterson, Eden, North Carolina	Keith Littlefield
Edwin Bradford Sawyer, Chesapeake, Virginia	Keith Littlefield
Ronald C. Spencer, Jr., Newport News, Virginiaa	Merv. Reynolds

NUMISMATIC INTERLUDE IN PARIS

by Jerry Schmidt

When one envisions a trip to Paris, numismatics is usually not one of the first items that comes to mind. A beautiful historical city with wide boulevards, magnificent palaces, scores of museums and a hectic night life, it has something for almost everyone. Also, as a fashion capitol and center for the arts, it caters to, and has special appeal for the female gender. Knowing this, Ruthie has long wanted to spend a few days there. So when some of our bridge playing acquaintances came up with an economical package tour, I acceded, and in late June we embarked on a ten day soiree.

As the only true coin enthusiast and the only male in our ten person entourage, I immediately concluded that my agenda for Paris would differ substantially from that of the others. Of course Ruthie and I also did the things that most tourists do when visiting the City of Light, but a good deal of time was spent in pursuing things numismatic.

A little research revealed that many of my objectives lay within easy walking distance of our Rue Pigalle hotel. With Ruthie gamely accompanying me, our initial foray would take us to Rue Richelieu en-route to the royal palace and the Louvre Museum. On this street we were to see no less than half a dozen coin shops within a three block area. My initial anticipation turned to disappointment when I began to compare prices with similar coins back home. For example, an average circulated 1923 silver dollar was priced at 150 French francs "about 30 U.S. dollars". Similar coins can be had in many U.S. shops for under \$6. When I inquired about other scarcer U.S. coins, the dealer gave me a bemused condescending look and politely stated that American tourists years ago had picked Paris clean of any worthwhile material. I later discovered, however, that U.S. gold coins were available for only slightly more than comparable coins in Virginia.



Typical coin shop on Rue Richelieu

The stock of most of the shops, not surprisingly, consisted of French coins, with ancients a close runner-up. Many varieties of other European crowns and minors were also available. Here again, prices were significantly higher than for similar items back home. However, some very nice material was available to those with deep pockets.

Though disappointed from a business standpoint, I was to find that Paris still had much to offer numismatically. In the same area on Rue Richelieu stands the Bibliotheque Nationale which includes the Musee du Cabinet des Medailles. this is a gem of a little museum featuring small artifacts, medals and a plethora of rare,unusual and interesting coins of the world. ancient Greek examples on display feature no less than five superb dekadrachms of Syracuse. Several interesting coin hoards were displayed as well. Those interested in oriental numismatics are also not to be disappointed. a nice selection of rare Japanese coins including several gold kobans and obans was exhibited, along with fascinating rarities from China, Thailand and Indo-China. The museum is open to the public daily, except Monday, from 1-6 PM. There is a small admission charge.



Entrance to the Musee du Cabinet des Medailles

After the mandatory tour of the Louvre viewing Venus de Milo and the Mona Lisa, one can walk across the bridge spanning the Seine to visit the French Mint and the Money Museum which houses the French National Coin collection. Situated on two floors, the lower displays French coins from Roman times through the middle ages. Several audio visual programs are available to those interested in specific aspects of the display. The second floor deals with coins and paper money of the revolution as well as modern coinage, emergency money and colonial coinage. Early coining machinery is also on display. Although most interesting and informative, the method of display conveyed an impression of sterility. The coins, housed in large vertical format poorly lighted plastic partitions, were difficult to see and study. one has to kneel in order to see the coins in the lower portion of the display.

The viewer does not feel the same warmth and rapport with the coins experienced at the Bibliotheque.



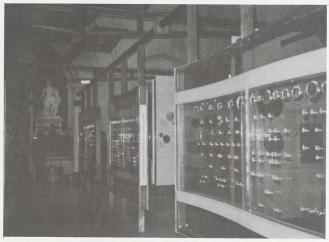
The Hotel des Monnaies - Paris Mint



16th Century coining press - Musee de la Monnaie

By appointment one can also take a tour of the Paris Mint to see the fabrication process. This is held twice a week on Tuesdays and Fridays at 2 PM. although the briefing was given exclusively in French one has no problem in following the on-site explanation of the minting process. Also within the mint complex is a sales store where mint products are sold. Available are French mint and proof sets, as well as a comprehensive selection of medals which are unequaled worldwide in their aesthetic beauty and originality.

Immediately across the street from the mint is a sidewalk market extending for several blocks along the river, which features old books, maps, prints, stamps, paper money and even a few coins. Though I found no particular bargains, it is an interesting place to browse,



Coins displayed at the Musee de la Monnaie



sidewalk stalls selling paper money & other items

and pick up a souvenir or two.

A visit to Paris would not be complete without a visit to the flea market, described as Europe's largest. Located in the Porte de Clignan-court area, and easily reached by subway, it contains thousands of shops which market everything from clothing and bric-a-brac to antiques furniture and paintings. Coins are also to be found, but here again prices are high, and few bargains are to be found. The flea market is open on Saturday, Sunday and Monday and is a spectacle worth seeing.

En-route to visit the catacombs deep under the city streets and storing the skeletons of five to six million former parisians going back to Roman times, Ruthie and I stumbled across the Musee de la Poste. although dealing with a sister hobby, philatelics, it was so impressive that I thought it worth mentioning. One takes an elevator to the 5th floor , where a journey begins through 15 rooms, in descending

order, finishing on the first floor. The museum deals with the postal history of France from 1477 to the present. It is a most dazzling and effective depiction of a related hobby.



Section of the flea market where coins can be found

One other museum which should not be overlooked on a numismatic tour of Paris is the French Military Museum, the Musee de l'Armee, on the left bank, and also known as the Hotel des Invalides. It was founded by Louis XIV in the late 1600's as a retirement home for disabled military veterans. It is the site of Napoleon's tomb, as well as endless displays of military paraphernalia from ancient times to the present. Various displays of coins and paper money are shown, along with hundreds of military medals from many countries relating to a vast number of wars and military campaigns.

In summing up, one may be disappointed in the lack of opportunity to make new coin acquisitions at reasonable prices in Paris, but numismatic enrichment comes in a variety of forms. Those sufficiently interested and dedicated have the opportunity to gain a wealth of new numismatic knowledge from this beautiful city.

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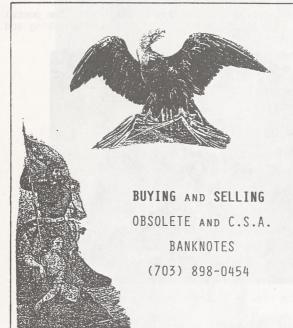


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BLUE RIDGE COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 pm on the last Tuesday of each month at 105 North 1st St. in Charlóttesville, VA.

KENT COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 pm on the second Thursday of each month at in room 120 of Science & Technology Center of the Delaware Technical & Community College in Dover. They held a Show & Tell session in July, and are planning a trip to the Philadelphia Mint.

MONTICELLO COIN CLUB. Meets on the third Wednesday of each month at The Bonanza Restaurant, 1525 East Rio Rd., Charlottesville, VA.

PIEDMONT COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 PM on the 4th Tuesday of each month at the YMCA in Collinsville, VA.

RICHMOND COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 PM the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Signet Bank Bldg., 7 North 8th St. in Richmond. In Oct. the club held Second Hobby Night. The RCC annual banquet will be held at Extra Billy's Restaurant, 5205 W. Broad St., Richmond, at 7 PM, Tues. 1 Dec. Visitors are welcome, no reservation is needed; order from the menu & pay your own check.

SALEM COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month in Room B of the Salem Civic Center at 7:30 PM.

SHENANDOAH VALLEY COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month in Fishersville at the Mary Switzer Bldg., Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center, at 7:30 PM. See page 6 for notice of their spring show.

SOUTHSIDE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION. Meets monthly at 7:30 PM on the 4th Monday in the community room at Cavalier Square Shopping Center in Hopewell.

TIDEWATER COIN CLUB. Meets on the 2nd. Wednesday each month at the Lake Wright Motor Hotel on Northampton Blvd., Va. Beach.

WASHINGTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY. Meets at the Washington Congregational Church, 3526 Massachusetts Ave, N.W., Washington, D.C. on 3rd Tuesdays.

WILLIAMSBURG COIN CLUB. Meets at 7 PM on the 2nd Friday of each month at Mortimer's Locksmith Shop in Norge, Va. Take Norge exit from I-64.

VIRGINIA PENINSULA COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 PM on the 3rd Monday of each month at the War Memorial Museum in Newport News. In place of a regular meeting in September, the club held its annual picnic.

ANCIENT NUMISMATIC SOC. OF WASHINGTON. Meets in the homes of members. For info.write to W.E. McGovern, P.O.Box 2495, Gaithersburg, MD 20886.

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Nov.29	Towson, MD Quality Inn, York Road	TOWSON COIN SHOW
Nov.28-29	Salisbury NC Civic Center	ROWAN CO. COIN CLUB
Dec.20	Towson, MD Quality Inn, York Road	TOWSON COIN SHOW
Jan.24,'93	Towson, MD Quality Inn, York Road	TOWSON COIN SHOW
Mar. 11-13	Colorado Springs, CO Broadmoor Hotel	AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION
Mar.13-14	Waynesboro VA Waynesboro Outlet Village	SHENANDOAH VALLEY COIN CLUB
Mar.19-21	Chattanooga, TN Days Inn, East Ridge	TENNESSEE NUMISMATIC

SHOW CALENDAR POLICY

The Show Calendar lists both club and commercial shows in Virginia and neighboring states, plus ANA and MANA events wherever held. Other Shows will be listed on request. If you wish to have your show listed, please let VNA know as soon as you have set the dates, so it can be run in several issues. Send the notice to:
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W.P. Anderson, 923 Franklin St., Winchester, VA 22601

WANTED: Encased coins from all states. Describe and price.

Ginnie Aldridge, 515 Pinehurst Ave. Colonial Heights, VA 23834

WANTED: Notes with full S.C. UPHAM imprint.

Sam Roakes, 281 Rustic Ridge Drive, Kennesaw, GA 30144

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VNA, 515 Pinehurst Avenue, Colonial Heights, VA 23834

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Page Mann, PO Box 1684, Williamsburg, VA 23187-1684; (804) 220-2077. WANTED: Virginia tokens, merchant, coal, transportation and parking, for my personal collection. Describe and price.

Elvin B. Miller, PO Box 366, Topping, VA 23169

WANTED: B.P.O.E. (Elks) & I.B.P.O.E.W. exonumia. Will buy or trade. J.M. Boswell, P.O. Box 428, Gambrills, MD 21054-0428

WANTED: Tokens from anywhere issued by fruit tree nursery or individual nurseryman, also tokens picturing apple tree or recognizable fruit tree. Write to:

David Consolvo, Route 1, Box 310, Covesville, VA 22931

WANTED: Confederate Interim Depositary receipts and funding Certificates issued in Virginia (Pearisburg, Dublin, Christiansburg, Fredericksbiurg, Lewisburg, Charlottesville, Scottsville)

J. Tracy Walker III, RFD 5, Box 258, Charlottesville, VA 22901

FOR SALE. Coins & Banknotes from around the world. Want lists especially welcome.

Paul Neumann, PO Box 416, Potts Point 2011, Sydney, NSW, Australia

MONEY STORE RULES

If you want to buy, sell or swap material, give the Money \$tore a try. Ads are free to VNA members. Send them to: Jim Ruehrmund, 712 Westover Road, Richmond, VA 23220

- Ads will be run for two issues, and may be renewed

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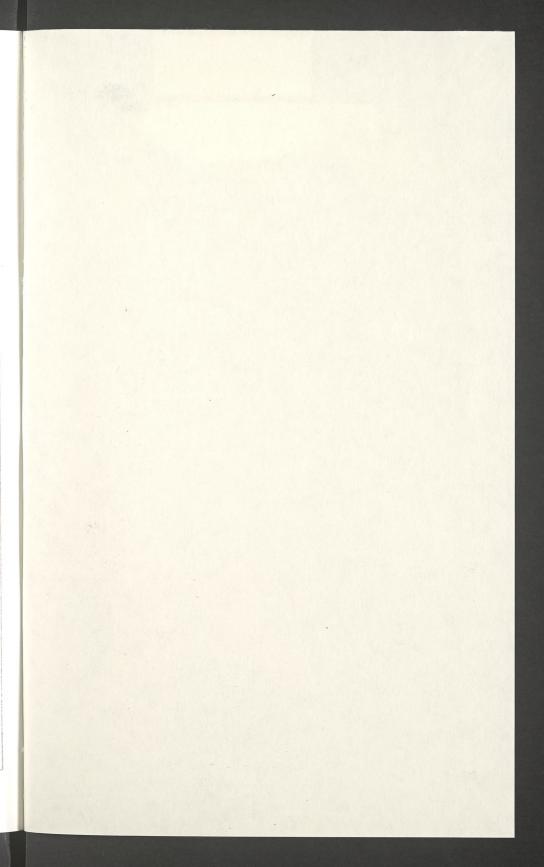


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